The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1886.

The Week.

THE annual report of the Comptroller of the Currency, so far as it has been given to the public, makes no specific recommendation of plans for replacing the present basis of national-bank notes with any other kind of security. The process by which the foundation of the bank-note system is disappearing, and the consequences thereof, are pointed out with sufficient distinctness. The distinction between the purely banking functions and the note-issuing functions is also drawn with clearness and precision. The dependence of the former function upon the latter is also thoughtfully discussed. Mr. Trenholm adverts to the question that has been more than once raised, "whether there is power under the Constitution for the charter of national banks except as instrumentalities for a money circulation." He does not advance any opinion upon this point. The question is important. Congress has certainly committed itself to the doctrine that it has the power to give such charters, by authorizing any bank to retire its circulation without forfeiting any other right or power that its charter may confer. The Supreme Court has more than once decided that the national-bank act is constitutional, and the language employed in these decisions goes to the length of holding that Congress is the sole judge of reasons moving it to pass the act. If Congress is the sole judge of the reasons moving it to issue legal-tender notes, as the same court has held, it is clear that the power to grant bank charters, with or without circulation, and with or without the present requirement that the banks shall hold a certain minimum amount of United States bonds, will not be controverted by the court as it is now constituted. If things run on as they are now going, the time will come when all the bonds will have been called in and redeemed. Will a bank's charter have been forfeited in that case by an act in which the bank itself has had no part? Can a forfeiture in law be effected by an act of the Government which is not even a direct but only a collateral act? It seems as nearly certain as anything can be that the national-banking system will never be overthrown by the judiciary. The note-issuing power will come to an end in due course of the payment of the national debt, but all else that is valuable in the system may last indefinitely.

The absence of any specific recommendation of means for replacing the present basis of bank circulation with other security, is the Comptroller's acknowledgment of the extreme difficulty of the problem. Taking into consideration the uniform hostility of the majority in Congress to any enlargement of the powers of the national banks, it may be considered certain that the law-makers are not going to give themselves any great trouble to overcome a difficulty which the wisest friends of the system are unable to solve. What we have to look forward to under existing laws is a gradual extinction of the bank-note system, and the substitution of gold and silver certificates in place thereof—gold probably for everything above the denomination of $10, and silver for the denominations of $10 and less.

The exulting testimony of Mr. James M. Swank, Secretary of the American Iron and Steel Association, to the activity of trade and the prosperous condition of the steel-rail makers, as published in the *Tribune* on Tuesday morning, leads us to inquire whether this remarkable state of affairs has occurred under a Democratic administration or not. "The situation," says Mr. Swank, "is extremely satisfactory, and in fact has not been so generally satisfactory for years." Contracts, he added, had already been made for 800,000 tons of steel rails for delivery in 1887, and the price was advancing. No mill was willing to contract for less than $36 per ton. One mill had refused orders for less than $37. In fact (but Mr. Swank did not make this statement), the price is now up to the English price, plus the American duty, $17 per ton, plus freight, commissions, etc. Things are going on swimmingly, and "it is exceedingly probable that steel rails will bring $40 per ton in the early part of 1887." The situation is so extremely flattering that although "the members of the steel-rail combination have not stated what their course will be in regard to *enlarging the limit of production*, there are general statements that there will be a considerable enlargement."

The impudence of these statements, when we take into account the enormous tariff bounty of $17 per ton given to the "steel-rail combination," ought to excite the indignation of every laborer and taxpayer in the United States. But the point to which we wish to direct a moment's attention is that these people and a great many others were, only two years ago, predicting ruin to every kind of business in case the Democratic party should come into power. The worst of it was that they were sincere in what they said. They had worked themselves up to the belief that one-half of the people of the United States were bent upon the destruction of this country. An honest belief of this kind is more dangerous in fact than the ordinary game of false pretences by which politicians seek to gain votes, because the politicians who go about during the campaign wearing daggers of lath and masks of illuminated pumpkin to frighten the common people, drop their paraphernalia after the votes are counted, and become very good friends; whereas the people come in time to believe what they hear so often, and really cherish the idea that half the country is composed of traitors and maniacs. It thus came about that a great multitude of ordinarily sagacious men of business, some of them of large wealth, some of them professors in colleges and instructors in logic and moral science, looked upon their Democratic neighbors as aliens and foreigners, either purposely bent on the destruction of the country, or so ignorant and besotted that the destruction of the country would come as a matter of course if they should get control of the Government. The common expression of this idea was, that if Cleveland were elected, property would be worth nothing, and from this belief the corollary was drawn that it were better to elect the worst Republican than the best Democrat—a maxim certain to demoralize any party, by teaching it that nothing it might do in defiance of good morals would shake its hold upon the most moral of its followers. Well, the thing which they most feared was done, and now we have their own testimony that the condition of trade "is extremely satisfactory, and, in fact, has not been so generally satisfactory for many years."

Volume XX. of the reports of the Tenth Census contains statistics of wages and the prices of the necessaries of life for a number of years, ending with 1880. Besides these there are short reports upon trades societies and strikes and lockouts. The rates of wages are given without any attempt at collation, but precisely as they have been returned by the employers. Prices of commodities, too, are given just as received from the correspondents. It is unfortunate that no digest of these figures has been made, as in their raw condition it is difficult to draw general conclusions from them. It is not difficult, however, to trace the fluctuations of business in those of wages, while withal there has been a general increase in the amount of wages all along the line. The average pay of the working classes was 40 per cent. greater in 1880 than in 1850, and 20 per cent. greater than in 1860, while the cost of the necessaries of life was not materially different. In 1870 the rate of wages expressed in paper was higher than in 1880 by about 10 per cent., but, measured in purchasing power, the workingman is at present receiving more pay for his labor than ever before. If Mr. Henry George had had access to these figures, he would never have written 'Progress and Poverty.' He would not have assumed it to be an axiom that "the rich are daily becoming richer and the *poor poorer*," and have wasted his time in endeavoring to explain and correct a social evil which has no existence. Moreover, it is not in the matter of wages alone that the condition of the laboring man has improved with the advance of civilization in this country. In the past half century the number of hours of labor has been greatly reduced, as is shown by the following table:

Hours of Labor.	Percentage of Laborers. 1830.	1880.
8— 9	5.4	5.1
9—10	13.5	8.8
10—11	29.7	59.6
11—12	5.4	9.6
12—13	32.5	14.6
13—14	13.5	2.3

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The chapter, or the report, upon trades societies is unsatisfactory in that it presents no statistics of membership. The number and distribution of societies (which are given) present little idea of the fulness or completeness of organization of the laboring classes. The report upon strikes and lockouts is necessarily very incomplete, owing to the difficulties encountered in obtaining statistics of the subject. It appears that there were 762 strikes during the year, which were confined almost entirely to the manufacturing and mining industries. Nearly three-fourths of these related to the rate of wages. The result of 354 strikes was ascertained, and, of these, 34 per cent. were successful, 44 per cent. were unsuccessful, and the others were compromised. Concerning the cost of strikes to the laborers, statistics have been obtained regarding 226 strikes, in which there was lost in idleness the sum of $3,711,097. If the same ratio extends to all the strikes of the year, the total loss was in excess of $13,000,000. The question may well be asked, "Do strikes pay?"

It never occurs to Mr. Blaine to investigate a subject before passing an opinion, but there are men who occasionally take that trouble. One such man, whose testimony no good Republican can disregard, has been making a tour of the South with a view of learning the facts about the question of wages. Mr. William D. Kelley of Philadelphia, the great champion of protection, has just made a study of this matter in the mineral and manufacturing regions of the South, and he thus summed up the results of his observations in an address at Birmingham, Ala., on Saturday: "Touching the wages paid common labor, Mr. Kelley said he would go back home and tell his people that the negro laborers of Alabama and Tennessee were as well paid as white laborers in Pennsylvania. Mr. Kelley's attention had been called to Mr. Blaine's statement that the negro workers in the South were paid as low as sixty cents." The correctness of Mr. Kelley's conclusion is confirmed by a very striking occurrence just reported from another Southern State. The negro stevedores employed by a steamship company at Norfolk, Va., struck for higher wages the other day, and the company immediately sent to New York and got a force of white men, who were glad to work for the pay which the negroes rejected as insufficient. To argue against this Norfolk incident and Mr. Kelley's confession would be too much even for a Blaine organ.

The official version of the meeting between Mr. Blaine and Mr. Edmunds appeared in the *Tribune* as follows: "On Sunday afternoon Mr. Blaine paid a visit to the house of ex-President Arthur, and, as he entered the parlor, Senator Edmunds came forward with great apparent cordiality, extending his hand and saying, 'How do you do, Mr. Blaine?' Mr. Blaine stood with hands holding his hat in front of him, in the position familiar to all who have met him; and made no response, simply looking Mr. Edmunds in the eye. Seeing some embarrassment, Clayton McMichael said: 'You know the Senator, Mr. Blaine?' Mr. Blaine remained perfectly silent, and Mr. Edmunds, at length apparently comprehending the situation, retreated to the sofa from which he had risen. A few minutes later Mr. Blaine expressed to Mr. McMichael and Mr. Miller his sincere regret that an act imperatively demanded from him should have occurred in the house of mourning. Mr. Blaine made no explanation of his motive, but the presumption is that he was not anxious to shake hands on Sunday with a man who had gratuitously slandered him on Saturday. The marvel is that Mr. Edmunds made the approach. It was on Saturday that Mr. Edmunds's letter was published by his friends, and apparently with his approval, distinctly intimating his belief that Mr. Blaine was a dishonest man."

This is not entirely satisfactory, and evidently needs to be supplemented by an Edmunds version. It does not make clear why Mr. Edmunds, who is a decidedly cold, reserved man, should wish to shake hands with a man of whom he held the opinion which he undoubtedly holds of Mr. Blaine, and of whom he felt it necessary to speak publicly as he has spoken of Mr. Blaine. Mr. Blaine's conduct as described was, however, eminently proper. He ought not to shake hands with anybody who feels as Mr. Edmunds feels about his "transactions." In fact, nobody should shake hands with anybody whom he considers a knave, and no knave should shake hands with anybody who, he has reason to believe, considers him a knave, and who has publicly denounced him as such. In the present condition of modern society such persons are often brought together under neutral roofs, and are often unwittingly introduced to each other by innocent hosts. Under such circumstances civility to the host calls for some sort of momentary recognition, but a bow will always answer the purpose. The "handshake," as the French call it, should be reserved for people whom one neither hates nor despises.

It is another illustration of the fact that little things often count with the public far more than large affairs, that this performance of Mr. Blaine's appears to have damaged him with many Republicans more seriously than all the revelations of his demagogism and dishonesty. Republican newspapers which supported him in 1884, do not hesitate to speak of him in the most contemptuous terms. Thus the Rutland *Herald*, one of the most prominent Republican journals in Vermont, concludes an editorial article entitled "Mr. Blaine's Blunder," with these sharp words: "Perhaps Mr. Blaine thinks he can afford to treat with disrespect George F. Edmunds; but he cannot afford to make a fool of himself." The feeling which is now rapidly growing towards Mr. Blaine is well expressed by the Boston *Saturday Evening Gazette*, which loyally supported him in 1884, but which now says:

"Mr. Blaine is rapidly becoming the spoilt child of the Republican party, and is sorely trying the indulgence and the patience of his best friends. Explaining away his mistakes, finding excuses for his indiscreet utterances, and hanging on tenterhooks in fear of what mischief he may do next, are growing to be tiresome occupations. Mr. Blaine is doing more to injure himself than was accomplished by all of the campaign attacks that were made upon him."

Mr. Theodore Roosevelt has been interviewed in London, and his confessions, as published in a cable despatch to the *World*, confirm the severest criticism which has been made upon his candidacy for Mayor. "Mr. Roosevelt," says the correspondent, "paid a high tribute to the honesty and ability of Mr. Hewitt. He said that he was compelled to enter the race against Mr. Hewitt because, since he was selected, it was necessary that he should make a sacrifice for the sake of maintaining the party organization." Of the large George vote, he said: "It does not mean a new party, but, unfortunately, a new element to be bid for by the old parties." Mr. Roosevelt confesses that he sacrificed his oft-expressed conviction that it made no difference whether a candidate for Mayor was a Democrat or a Republican so long as he was an honest man, in order to hold the Republican organization together; he confesses, also, that by making this sacrifice he helped to build up "unfortunately, a new element for both parties to bid for." That is, the sole outcome of his candidacy was the addition of a new and powerful incentive to "deals" in future elections, thus contributing directly to the cause of misgovernment and to the prosperity of every political gambler who gets his living by this kind of politics.

The Republicans of Connecticut are convinced that there was a great deal of bribery practised in the recent election by the Democrats in their endeavor to carry the Legislature and to secure the Senatorship. The suspicion is, we think, well founded. We doubt if there has ever been an election in this country in which the use of money was more brazen and infamous. The Republicans, having carried the Legislature, are in possession of the means to make a searching investigation of the charges of corruption that have been made. If they will appoint a committee for this purpose, they can undoubtedly get a great deal of convincing testimony. They may be able to secure the indictment of a number of their political opponents and send some of them to jail. Failure to take steps for an investigation will lead to the suspicion that Republican politicians are exposed to the same danger also. There ought, however, to be a sufficient number of honest men in the Legislature on both sides to carry a motion for an investigation. It would be helpful if they would make the attempt even though the motion were voted down.

The latest question connected with Virginia's "bonds" is, whether the State is entitled to the coupons which have once been refused by its officers when offered in payment of taxes In order to understand the importance to the State of this question, it is necessary to remind our readers that in nearly all cases these coupons are offered by the taxpayers of Virginia to the county treasurer, who, in compliance with the law of the State, declines to accept them in payment of taxes. Property of the citizen is then levied upon and sold by the treasurer,

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who, out of the proceeds, pays the tax and gives a receipt therefor. The next step is an action in the United States Court against the treasurer as a trespasser, and a judgment for damages. This means that the treasurer is required to pay back to the taxpayer the money collected from the sale of the property, which, as a matter of fact, is always "bought in" by the owner for the amount of the taxes, and to settle the costs of the suit. Thus far the State is evidently out of pocket. But worse yet remains, if the opinion of some of the ablest lawyers in Virginia is sound. The State, according to this opinion, actually receives and receipts for the taxes; the judgment of the national court, which enables the taxpayer to recover damages, is given against an individual trespasser. It is true that there is an "indemnifying fund," consisting of public money, out of which treasurers are permitted to pay these judgments and the costs of the suit, but it is very doubtful whether the treasurer's receipt for taxes given as an officer could be explained away. There would be something ludicrous about an effort on the part of Virginia to obtain these rejected coupons, but should it be held that the State is not entitled to them, it would be a very great, although probably a deserved disaster. In that event taxes would be really unpaid, the exchequer of the State reduced by reason of costs paid, and all the coupons still outstanding. Then, perhaps, the wisdom of the advice once given by a crafty man of the world would be admitted by Virginia: "My son, honesty pays better than dishonesty—I have tried both."

The Washington gossips are talking about the chances of Congress making new States at its approaching session, and a good deal of silly guessing is indulged in. One story is that the Democrats in the House may attempt to seize a partisan advantage by passing the Senate bill admitting Washington Territory as a State, the theory being that the new commonwealth would send two Democrats to the United States Senate next year, and contribute three electoral votes to the Democratic candidate for President the following year. This theory is based upon the fact that the Territory elected Mr. Voorhees, a Democrat, as Delegate to Congress in 1884, and reelected him last month. But everybody who knows anything about that region is aware that Mr. Voorhees won his two elections solely on personal and local questions, and not at all on national issues, the proof of which is found in the fact that the same voters who chose him as Delegate in 1884, elected a Legislature which contained twenty-four Republicans to twelve Democrats. There is not a particle of doubt that, on a straight fight between the two parties, Washington Territory is Republican by from 3,000 to 5,000 majority; and if the Democrats should make it a State in the expectation of capturing either a brace of Senators or a trio of electoral votes, they would be pretty sure to fare as badly as in 1876, when they let Colorado into the Union because they thought her election of a Democratic Delegate in 1874 insured her proving a Democratic State, and thereby failed of the undisputed majority in the electoral college which they would otherwise have had.

At the American Institute at Bar Harbor last summer, by the shrewd manipulation of Mr. E. C. Carrigan, a resolution was passed, without discussion and with apparent unanimity, endorsing the scheme of national aid to Southern education. A similar resolution was introduced at the Massachusetts Teachers' Association in Boston last Saturday, and Mr. Carrigan was present in person to "see it through." The result shows that the teachers have had time to ponder their previous precipitancy. It was found impossible to carry the measure without discussion, and, after a short but sharp debate, the motion was lost by a vote of ten to nine. The fact that, after a spirited argument, only nineteen persons in the whole audience felt interest enough in the matter to record their votes, casts a world of light on the action at Bar Harbor last summer as "the unanimous expression of the teachers of New England."

The death of H. M. Hoxie was, in the estimation of his nearest friends, hastened by the severe labor and anxiety imposed upon him by the great Southwestern strike of last spring. It is a fact that, although he held up bravely till the last, and saw victory securely in his own hands, he became immediately thereafter a prey to an ailment which brought great physical suffering, and to which he finally succumbed. If he had not been subjected to the terrible ordeal arranged for him by Martin Irons and his misguided followers, Mr. Hoxie would undoubtedly be alive and well to-day. He has fallen a martyr to high duty, and his name and example will be long cherished by his countrymen as those of a true hero. Before Hoxie took his stand against the extensive and multiplying system of boycotts by which all industry, and especially railroad transportation, was plagued and threatened, it was customary for everybody to yield to it. After he had fought against and beaten it, everybody else fought against it, and presently courts and juries sat down upon it. No finer instance can be found of the wholesome effect of splendid although unintentional leadership in a great crisis.

Dr. Bryce, Superintendent of the Insane Hospital of Alabama, has been investigating the question whether insanity is increasing among the negroes since their emancipation, and concludes that there can be no doubt on this point. The whole number of insane negroes in the United States, by the census of 1850, was only 638, and in 1860 but 766 The returns for 1870 showed one insane negro to every 2,695, and in 1880 the ratio had increased to one in every 1,096. At this rate by 1890 the proportion would reach one in every 500, or the same as among the whites. Dr. Bryce overlooks the fact that much of the increase between 1870 and 1880 is only apparent, being due to the fact that the later census was taken with much greater accuracy in the South than the earlier one; but there is no reason to doubt that insanity really became much more common among the blacks during that decade, or that ultimately there will be no marked difference between the two races in this respect. It is one of the misfortunes of civilization that the increase of mental activity among a people is accompanied by an increase of mental disease, and the negroes are only obeying the common law of humanity.

President Robinson of Brown University, in an article which he publishes in the *Forum*, entitled "How I was Educated," uses some plain language about the kind of young men who are sent to college as being especially fitted for the ministry. He speaks first of the disadvantages which he labored under upon first entering college because of the incompetence of the teachers who had prepared him, and then says:

> "To add to my misfortune, the most intimate of my friends, though pure in their lives and morally wholesome as associates, were low in their aims as scholars, satisfied with very little and very superficial work. They had been sent to college to prepare for the ministry, and were fair specimens of the average of a class of men not yet wholly extinct. Selected, and aided by beneficiary funds, as 'candidates for the ministry,' they seemed to regard themselves as absolved from the duty of high aims as scholars, and dropped into the wretched cant of 'laying aside ambition as unworthy the servants of the Lord.'"

That this is true of a larger part of the men who go to many of our colleges to-day under similar conditions, is well known. Dr. Robinson stops with the effect which the companionship of these men had upon him, but if he had followed them out into life, he would have had little difficulty in showing that their effect upon the moral and intellectual influence of the pulpit has been also a misfortune.

The subject of remunerative employment for educated women in England has been much discussed in the London press of late. The immediate occasion was the fact that the *Daily News* opened its columns to the complaints of "lady companions" as to the wretchedness of their lot, and the correspondence thus elicited shows a melancholy state of things. It appears that there are thousands of middle-class women in London "who," in the *Spectator's* words, "are almost in despair for money, who rush in hundreds for any vacancy, who inundate advertisers with letters till honest selection is rendered almost physically impossible, and who, if only they may keep their caste and not do manual labor — for which, poor things, half of them are physically incapacitated—will take any wages and accept any kind of situation." An offer of a "companionship" at £20 a year brings literally hundreds of applicants, while £14 is a common salary, and scores of letters are received where the advertiser offers nothing but a "Christian home." The *Spectator* concludes that in England "hardly any one is so ill-off as the educated woman who has no money and no positive right in a home," since unless she has special capacities, she can find no work to do. The only remedy that the *Spectator* can see is for the English father to imitate the French custom, and insure a daughter's independence by giving her a "portion" of at least £100 a year. But at best this would not cover the cases of those women whose fathers, through early death or pecuniary misfortune, were unable to provide this portion, nor of those women who would infinitely prefer honorable self-support to a competence only procured through the sacrifices of over-burdened fathers.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, November 24, to TUESDAY, December 2, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has written a letter explaining that he cannot restore William A. Stone (Rep.), United States District Attorney for Pennsylvania, to office as he did M. E. Benton (Dem.), both of whom were suspended for making political speeches.

Col. Philip W. Downes, who was on Tuesday appointed by the President Appraiser at the port of Baltimore, is a native of Caroline County, Md., and is forty-nine years old. He was educated at Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, and studied law. He began the practice of law at Denton, Md., and still occupies the office he first opened twenty-six years ago. He has always taken an active part in politics, and is considered to be one of the best stump speakers in the State. For fifteen years he has been a Caroline County member of the Democratic State Central Committee. He is understood to be Senator Gorman's choice.

Owing to the heavy payments, amounting to over $12,000,000, it is thought at the Treasury Department that there has been very little if any decrease in the public debt for November.

Reports from persons holding different official positions who would be likely to know the facts, agree that the President and the Secretary of the Treasury will recommend to Congress the enactment of some customs legislation similar to that which is proposed by the Hewitt bill. This was substantially done at the last session.

The Secretary of the Navy on Monday signed the awards for the following new ships of war: Cruiser No. 2, the *Charleston*, to the Union Iron Works of San Francisco. Gunboat No. 2, to the Columbia Iron Works and Dry Dock Co. of Baltimore, Md. Cruiser No. 3, the *Baltimore*, to Cramp & Sons. The award on gunboat No. 1, for which the Cramps are the lowest bidders, is temporarily withheld, to allow further consideration of a bid relative to the machinery. No award is made for cruiser No. 1, because all the bids exceed the limit fixed by Congress.

The report of the General Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service says that the number of disasters to documented vessels within the field of station operations during the last year was 322. There were on board these vessels 2,726 persons, of whom 2,699 were saved and 27 lost.

An important decision in a liquor case was rendered in Dubuque, Iowa, on Friday by Judge Shiras, of the United States District Court. It was the case of Sheer vs. Gross Brothers, who conducted a retail saloon in connection with their brewery in Chickasaw County. On a motion to remand to the State Court, on the ground that no Federal question was involved, the Judge decided that a Federal question was involved, and that the case would have to remain in the United States Court. This means, if Judge Shiras is upheld by the United States Supreme Court, that saloon-keepers and brewers cannot be deprived of their property without just compensation.

The Secretary of Assembly No. 80, Knights of Labor, comprising the miners of the Monongahela and Youghiogheny Rivers, has addressed a letter to the coal operators requesting an advance in wages, giving them until December 2 to reply. There are 7,000 miners in the four pools which comprise the district. The operators are willing to confer with them, but say the market will not justify higher wages.

Prof. Egbert C. Smyth and his accused fellow-professors of Andover Theological Seminary, who are charged with heresy, have made reply to the charges of the Board of Visitors. Some of the charges Prof. Smyth pronounces "irrelevant," and others too indefinite to be answered. To the specification of his heresy, "That there is, and will be, probation after death for all men who do not decisively reject Christ during the earthly life; and that this should be emphasized, made influential, and even central in systematic theology," he answers: "In this unqualified form I do not admit that I 'hold, maintain, and inculcate that there is and will be probation after death for all men who do not decisively reject Christ during the earthly life; and that this should be emphasized, made influential, and even central, in systematic theology.' God as revealed in Christ is to me central in theology. Whatever encourages hope that all men will have opportunity to be influenced by the motive of an offered Saviour is chiefly valuable in theology as a reflection of the character of God. That this opportunity does not come in any intelligible way during this life to very many of our race seems to be evident. That it will consequently come to such beyond this life, is a reasonable inference. It seems to be implied in the universality of Christ's person, atonement, and judgment. I deny that such an inference, or anything affirmed in the citations adduced by the complainants, is inconsistent with the creed of the Seminary."

The Rev. Elias Lyman Magoon, an eminent Baptist minister, died in Philadelphia on Thursday at the age of seventy-six. He worked his way through college by his trade, bricklaying, supervised the college education of Gen. B. F. Butler, and was ordained a Baptist minister in 1839. He was the pastor of churches in Albany, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia. Among the works of his pen the best known are 'Proverbs for the People,' 'Orators of the American Revolution,' 'Republican Christianity,' and 'Westward Empire.' He was an enthusiastic collector of valuable books and works of art. A few years ago he sold his art collection to Vassar College, of which he was a director, for $20,000.

Erastus Brooks died on Thursday at his home in West New Brighton, Staten Island. Mr. Brooks was born in Portland, Me., on January 31, 1815. When eight years of age he was sent to Boston, where he worked in a grocery store and attended an evening school. He learned the printer's trade, taught school, and edited the Haverhill *Gazette*. His elder brother, James Brooks, established the *Evening Express* of this city in 1836, and employed Erastus Brooks as its Washington correspondent. Soon afterwards the latter became associate editor and part proprietor of the paper. In 1853 and 1855 he was elected to the State Senate as a Whig, and in 1856 he was the candidate of the American party for Governor. During the latter part of his life he was a Democrat. He was a member of the Constitutional Conventions of 1867-68 and 1871-72. In 1878 he was the Chairman of the Democratic State Convention. Elected to the Assembly from Richmond County in 1878 and 1879, he was in each year the candidate of his party for Speaker. After the death of his brother James, in 1873, Mr. Brooks assumed the full editorial control of the *Express*, in which he retained the chief interest until the sale of the paper to John Kelly, Augustus Schell, and others in 1877. Since the organization of the State Board of Health in 1880, he has served as one of the State Commissioners.

FOREIGN.

Coercion was suddenly reëstablished on Friday in Ireland, and caused intense excitement. It was announced, on good authority that the Government had resolved to suppress promptly all anti-rent and other illegal combinations; to curtail the license of the press; forcibly to suppress intimidation; to enforce the laws governing the processes for the collection of debts; to proclaim all meetings called for certain purposes, and to arrest certain prominent agitators of the anti-rent policy. The first positive steps taken were the proclamation of a National League meeting called for Sligo on Sunday and the prosecution of Mr. John Dillon. He was summoned to appear in court on Tuesday, the charges against him being that his language at the meeting held at Longford on the 7th inst. led to an assault upon a bailiff and resistance to the execution of decrees; that at the Myroe meeting on Monday last he made a speech calculated to intimidate. The affidavits on which the summons was issued were lodged by the police inspectors and stenographers who were present at the meetings referred to. The citation calls upon Dillon to find sureties for his good behavior, in default of which he will be committed to jail.

Reduced to its simplest form, the Government procedure, which is precisely that which was formerly taken against Messrs. Healy and Davitt, amounts to offering Mr. Dillon the choice of holding his tongue or going to prison. He will, of course, promptly accept the latter alternative. Then Mr. O'Brien will denounce the Government in *United Ireland*, which will be suppressed. By this time Mr. Parnell will be compelled to appear upon the scene in defence of his lieutenants and take the leadership in the struggle. If the Government venture to arrest him, there will be war. The "plan of campaign" of the Irish leaders which led to the renewal of coercion is that rents be paid, less the deductions claimed by the occupiers, to a trustee chosen by themselves, the landlord to get nothing unless he accepts what is originally offered him. The troops in Ireland will immediately be reinforced with 4,000 men.

The first skirmishes in the Irish war took place on Sunday, and were on the whole of a highly amusing character, being little more than a game of tag between the police and Nationalist leaders. The monster meeting at Sligo was prevented, but several smaller meetings were held by energetic speakers getting a few minutes the start of the police. In the first case the meeting lasted one minute, in the second rather less. At the Town Hall the police were too quick for the Nationalists and got there first, at half-past one in the morning. O'Brien, O'Kelly, and the reporter of the *Freeman's Journal* gave the Sligo police the slip. Although they were missed almost immediately, and all the telegraph offices of the county were set to work to find them, as they had wisely proceeded to a little place called Riverstown, where there is no telegraph office, they held their meeting with no other interruption than the protest of the village constable. Several meetings of this kind were held, the authorities finally finding them at Ballymote, to which place 100 constables immediately hurried in a special train. A warrant will be issued for the arrest of O'Brien.

The London *Times* says the anti-rent campaign in Ireland has been too long allowed headway. The Government will not be able to defeat it merely by disarming its astute authors and violent advocates, but they can insure victory over the movement by steadily carrying out the decrees of the courts. The *Standard* attacks the Government for its decision to summon Parliament on January 13, a month earlier than was expected, and to monopolize immediately private members' days for the discussion of the procedure. "This," it says, "is a harsh precedent, an act of unprecedented rigor, and capable of being represented in unpopular and even odious colors."

The case of the Government against Mr. John Dillon was on Tuesday, at the request of Mr. Dillon's counsel, postponed to December 11.

Gen. Buller has been appointed provisional successor to Sir Robert Hamilton in Dublin Castle after all, notwithstanding the use he has made of his discretionary powers in Kerry. The appointment does not particularly please the landlords and the Tories, whose views were expressed by the *Times* on Tuesday morning, when it said: "Were the appointment a permanent one it would be open to grave objection on several grounds—his military occupation, want of official Irish experience, etc.

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But when the Government have not got the men they want they must, we suppose, do what they can with the men they have." Gen. Buller's appointment is taken to mean, first, a severe pressure on all landlords to compel them to make a temporary reduction of rents; secondly, the employment of horse, foot, and dragoons without stint and without mercy to evict tenants who refuse to pay after their landlords have made adequate reductions. It is semi-officially announced that Gen. Buller will return to the War Office early in March, and resume his duties as Deputy Adjutant-General. His services will be required in Ireland only while the department is being reorganized. The Under-Secretary will in the future occupy a seat in the House of Commons.

Parliament will meet on January 13. The Government will ask for the whole time of the House to deal with procedure rules.

Mr. Gladstone declines every request to speak until Parliament reassembles. He has sent letters to several of his late colleagues stating his programme for the coming session. He approves an immediate challenge of the Government to state its Irish policy in the debate upon the address, although he expects that the Unionists will maintain their adhesion to the Government. Afterward he will assist in an effective settlement of the procedure question. The Scotch home-rulers will hold a conference and mass demonstration at Edinburgh on January 12. Their platform urges that national legislatures be granted to the respective nationalities of the United Kingdom, each legislature to control all local affairs, with an executive responsible only to the national electors.

Mr. John Morley, speaking on Tuesday, said that order would not exist in Ireland until the Government dealt with the land problem; and the Government could not deal with that problem without a central body acting between the peasant and the State, which was impossible without home rule. Mr. Morley said that Mr. Gladstone had no liquor of heart or weakness of word on the Irish policy. He appealed to the Nationalists to join the Liberals and help to free Ireland from the nightmare of confusion and destruction in which she walked.

A volume has been published in London called 'The New Liberal Programme,' contributed to by representatives of the Liberal party, and edited by Andrew Reid. Mr. Gladstone's remarks have already been published. The other contributors, among whom are the Earl of Aberdeen, Sir Wilfred Lawson, Sir Walter Forster, and Mr. Jacob Bright, reply to the questions, Why was the Liberal party defeated at the last general election? Second, What ought it to do in order to win the next time? The programme Mr. Labouchere lays down, which is the most advanced in the book, is as follows: (1.) Home rule for Ireland, with Irish representatives at Westminster for imperial affairs, and no land purchase. (2.) A free breakfast-table, a progressive income tax, and a progressive succession duty. (3.) Disendowment and disestablishment, the Church funds to be devoted, after the recognition of private endowments of the last fifty years, to educational purposes. (4.) The right of every parish to purchase the land at its actual value, and lease or sell it to small occupiers; the abolition of entail and the confiscation to the State of lands owned by private individuals which may be cultivated but are not, and are not a part of the amenities of residence. (5.) The abolition of hereditary legislation. "The above," he adds, "are only a few of the reforms now necessary." The tone of the volume is confident almost to defiance.

James Anthony Froude is now preparing for an extended tour in the West Indies, with the object of writing a book of similar scope and purpose to his recent 'Oceana.' Before leaving England, he will have prepared a full and authoritative statement of all his financial relations with the Carlyle family.

A verdict has been rendered in favor of Lord Coleridge in the libel suit brought against him by his son-in-law, Mr. Adams.

The election for the rectorship of St. Andrew's University resulted in the choice of Mr. J. B. Balfour, Secretary of State for Scotland, who received 108 votes against 88 for Sir John Lubbock.

The British troops in Burmah, in a recent encounter with the forces of Boshway, killed 143 of his followers without losing a soldier. But three of the British troops were wounded.

Gen. Roberts has demanded 4,000 additional Indian and native troops to reinforce the British army of occupation in Burmah.

The Paris *Journal des Débats* says: "France has no desire to replace England in Egypt when Egypt is evacuated, but if evacuation is to be conditional upon England remaining absolute mistress of the country, agreement is impossible. British pleas for time are equivalent to indefinite occupation. France does not make this occupation a *casus belli*, but declares that her interests and rights are prejudiced by it."

The French Chamber of Deputies on Thursday, by a vote of 388 against 142, adopted a motion for a reduction of 1,650,000 francs in military pensions. The Chamber of Deputies also adopted various reductions previously agreed upon by the Governing Committee.

In addressing the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday, Premier de Freycinet said that the policy of France was for peace. Nevertheless, he continued, France must not entirely abdicate her position as a great Power. She must prevent the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire and must not admit that any Power may take possession of Egypt. The Suez Canal question would soon be settled in a satisfactory manner. Referring to colonial subjects, he said France must content herself with organizing her present colonial possessions. The general policy of the Government comprised prudence and firmness. The foreign budget was passed without opposition, an amendment which implied a vote of censure on the Government being rejected by 185 to 313.

The Tonquin credits were voted on Monday, after a special appeal by M. de Freycinet, by 278 to 249. The Tunis credits were also passed, and the Madagascar credits by 289 to 100.

France and Mexico have concluded a treaty of commerce.

It is announced in Paris that Russia does not insist upon the selection of Prince Nicolas of Mingrelia as the candidate for the Bulgarian throne.

The London *Standard* says it is seriously proposed at Sofia to nominate an American for that throne.

It is affirmed in Russian circles in Berlin that the Czar is willing to accept any arrangement that Emperor William advises for the settlement of the Bulgarian question.

At a court dinner given recently to sixty Delegates, Emperor Francis Joseph remarked that the situation in the East had improved. He expressed himself as completely satisfied with the work of the Delegation.

Another conspiracy against the Bulgarian Government has been discovered. Two officers, one of them a Russian, organized a plot to kill Col. Nicolaieff, Maj. Popoff, and the Regents. The crime was to have been committed at five o'clock on Thursday morning. Maj. Popoff discovered the plot, and caused the arrest of the two officers and of two others who are also implicated. Forty-one cadets are implicated. All of them, including the Captain, assisted in the deposition of Prince Alexander, but were subsequently pardoned.

The German Consul at Sofia has informed the Bulgarian Government that the German flag at present covers all persons entitled to Russian protection in Bulgaria.

The Berlin *German Gazette*, in an exhaustive article on Russia's financial condition, compares it with that of France before the great Revolution. The Russian debt is 5,600,000,000 rubles. The interest thereon has risen in a decade from 104,000,000 to 261,000,000 rubles. The paper circulation is 716,000,000 rubles, of which only 171,000,000 is covered by bills convertible into currency. The *Gazette* warns Germans to avoid the new Russian loan.

A plot was recently discovered to kidnap King Milan of Servia while hunting near Vrana, and carry him into Montenegro. He escaped by an express train to Belgrade.

The Rumanian Chambers opened on Saturday. In the speech from the throne King Charles expressed himself as hopeful of the continuance of peace. He announced that Prince Ferdinand of Hohenzollern had been definitely selected as the heir to the throne of Rumania, the King being childless.

The German Reichstag was opened on Thursday by the reading of the Emperor's speech from the throne. In it he said: "The object of the policy of the Empire, which enjoys peaceful relations with all states, is to exert in favor of the maintenance of concord among all the Powers the influence which accrues to Germany from her love of peace, from the universal confidence reposed in the Empire, owing to the fact that Germany is not concerned in pending questions, and from the Emperor's close friendship with two neighboring courts." That part of the Emperor's speech relating to the Septennate Bill is as follows: "By the law of May 6, 1880, the peace effective was fixed until March 31, 1888. Our military system therefore requires renewing on a legal basis. The army is a guarantee of lasting protection and of the blessings of peace. Although the policy of the empire is always pacific, Germany, in view of the development of the military establishments of neighboring states, cannot longer defer increasing her defensive force, especially the peace effective. A bill, therefore, will be submitted providing for an increase, to take effect from the beginning of the new financial year." The Septennate Bill fixes the peace effective of the army until 1894 at 468,409 men, not including the single-year volunteers. The permanent expenditure of the army is placed at 23,000,000 marks, and the special and non-recurring expenditure at 24,000,000 marks.

The annual report on the siege of Berlin has been presented to the German Reichstag. It describes the Socialist movement among workingmen as still lively, and tending more and more in a radical and extreme direction, which gives it a very provocative character. Hamburg and Altona are the chief centres of the movement.

The Spanish Cortes on Monday unanimously voted the extra credit of $45,000,000 to improve the navy. The principal part of this sum is to be devoted to the purchase of torpedo-boats and cruisers. The Government have presented a bill for trial by jury to the Chamber of Deputies.

The United States mail for Russia, while passing through Belgium on Saturday, was robbed of 141 registered packages containing money and diamonds probably worth several hundred thousand dollars. This is believed to have been the mail that left New York on November 17 on the steamer *Eider*, and left London for St. Petersburg on the 26th.

Eugene Rambert, the Swiss writer, is dead. He was born at Montreux in 1830, studied theology at Lausanne, and was appointed Professor of French Literature at the Academy of Lausanne in 1854. In 1860 he accepted a similar position at the Polytechnic School in Zürich. Among his works are 'Mme. de Staël,' 'Corneille, Racine et Molière,' 'Poésies,' 'Ecrivains Nationaux,' 'Les Alpes Suisses,' etc.

The Superior of the Oblate Fathers in Montreal has announced that no Knight of Labor will be allowed to partake of the sacrament

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LIKE CASE, LIKE RULE.

WE intimated last week that the President's action in the Benton affair was pretty sure to cause him a deal of trouble. Accordingly, as soon as a Republican district attorney, Mr. Stone, dismissed, like Mr. Benton, for partisan activity, sought to take advantage of the prece dent thus established, it was found that it would not hold water.

Benton went off stumping in a political canvass, in direct violation of the President's order of July 19, but on the Democratic side. Stone went off stumping, also in direct violation of the President's order, but on the Republican side. According to all sound rules of administrative efficiency, both were wrong and deserved punishment. Both were, therefore, most rightfully dismissed. But Benton put in a plea that his stumping had not interfered with the proper discharge of the duties of his office, and was thereupon restored. Stone promptly asked for his restoration on the same ground, and was refused, for the reason that *his* stump speeches were made on the wrong side. Lest we should be suspected of any perversion or misunderstanding of the President's meaning, we shall quote his exact words :

"I shall accept as true the statement of Mr. Stone, that the time spent by him in thus demonstrating his willingness to hold a profitable office at the hands of an Administration which he endeavored to discredit with the people, and which had kindly overlooked his previous offences, did not result in the neglect of ordinary official duty. But his conduct has brought to light such an unfriendliness towards the Administration which he pretends to serve, and of which he is nominally a part, and such a consequent lack of loyal interest in its success, that the safest and surest guarantee of his faithful service is, in my opinion, entirely wanting. His course, in itself such as should not have been entered upon while maintaining official relations to the Administration, also renews and revives, with unmistakable interpretation of their character and intent, the charges of offensive partisanship heretofore made and up to this time held in abeyance.

"Mr. Stone and others of like disposition are not to suppose that party lines are so far obliterated that the administration of the Government is to be trusted, in places high or low, to those who aggressively and constantly endeavor unfairly to destroy the confidence of the people in the party responsible for such administration. While vicious partisan methods should not be allowed for partisan purposes to degrade or injure the public service, it is my belief that nothing tends so much to discredit our efforts, in the interest of such service, to treat fairly and generously the official incumbency of political opponents, as conduct such as is here disclosed. The people of this country certainly do not require the best results of administrative endeavor to be reached with such agencies as these."

Now we think the dismissals in both cases were perfectly justifiable; that the restoration of Benton was a great mistake, and that the refusal to restore Stone was correct. But the precedent set in the Benton case compelled the President to give reasons for his action in Stone's case which, if adhered to, must ruin or seriously damage, before his term is out, the reform which we are sure he has at heart, and which he has done so much to promote.

We must, in order to make this clear, go back to the fact, which is occasionally forgotten, that one of the great objects of civil-service reform is to put an end to the practice of changing all the subordinate officers of the Government every time a new administration comes into power. On this point the friends of the reform obtained what seemed to be a satisfactory pledge from Mr. Cleveland when he came into office. Office-holders not guilty of offensive partisanship were to be retained, provided there was nothing to be said against their honesty and efficiency. That this pledge has been kept in its entirety we do not mean to say. There have been many violations of it, but we believe most of them have been more apparent than real. In short, we are not afraid to maintain that the President has kept it about as well as the existing condition of human nature and of American political morals and manners would permit. No one President can put the civil service on a proper footing, or avoid frequent failures to maintain his own standards. We cannot recall any case until now, however, in which any member of the Administration, either in making a removal or appointment, put forth a reason for its action that admitted everything which the advocates of a quadrennial "clean sweep" contend for. That the President has done so in the Stone case, it is difficult to deny.

We applauded the order of July 19 in the belief that it was a warning to all office-holders of every party, given in the interest of permanence in office—that is, we supposed it to mean that, inasmuch as subordinate officers might have to serve under different parties, it was an essential condition of good administration that no office-holder should engage in public denunciation of either party. Benton ought not to have done so, because the next President may be a Republican, and the interests of good government require that the district attorneys whom he finds in office shall not be persons who have been abusing him and his supporters on the stump, and whom his self-respect will therefore not allow him to keep in office. Stone ought not to have done so, because Stone is an officer of the present Administration, and his speeches really attacked both the honesty and sagacity of his superior officers, and this is something to which in the interest of discipline they ought not to submit, even if they care nothing about his criticisms personally. If either Benton or Stone, or any other man in office, considers it a hardship not to be able to take the stump in political campaigns, the answer is that public office comes to no man against his will. Nobody is bound to become a district attorney or an appraiser any more than to become a clerk in holy orders. Therefore, anybody who does not like a place one of the conditions of which is abstinence from speech-making during campaigns, has only to refrain from office-seeking, and his liberty will be secured. Silence in campaigns, too, as a grievance, has a somewhat ludicrous aspect when we remember that not over one in ten thousand of the American people ever opens his lips as a stump orator, or finds his life in any manner clouded by reticence about "the issues of the day." The notion that office-holders suffer more than other men through inability to orate in political contests, is one of the traditions of the spoils system, which always made political activity a condition and accompaniment of office-holding. The fact is, that there is no more necessary connection between them than between political activity and banking or dry-goods jobbing.

From the Benton and Stone cases taken together, something in the nature of a new rule may be, and doubtless will be, extracted both by office-holders and by friends of the spoils system. In fact, the latter are extracting one every day. That rule is, that moderate partisan activity which does not interfere with official duty will be overlooked in Democrats, but not in Republicans. The reason given for overlooking it in the President's letter about Stone, too, will undoubtedly furnish the next Republican President with full justification for making a clean sweep of every office-holder who has ever made a speech in public on the Democratic side. This means, of course, that we are in great danger of seeing every trace of the good things President Cleveland has done swept away by his successor, no matter to which party he may belong, for every new President is in a measure forced to seize every plausible excuse for making vacancies.

We would, therefore, ask most respectfully but most earnestly, who is Stone, or who is Benton—who are all the district attorneys in the United States rolled into one—that the country should be exposed to these risks, and the friends of good government so signally disheartened, on account of anything they say or do on or off the stump? No one has studied this question of reform in the American civil service without being astounded by the mistakes which are committed in the exercise of the appointing power, for comparatively trivial objects. Public sentiment is often shocked, and tens of thousands of honest and admiring supporters are disheartened and disgusted, in order to provide a small place for a trumpery adventurer, whom no private employer would take on any terms, and who is probably as sure to disgrace the Government as he is everybody else who trusts him. This, too, is often called good "politics," as if human nature changed and the moral government of the world was suspended in the work of looking after the general weal.

DR. McGLYNN'S PESSIMISTIC PHILOSOPHY.

THE Rev. Dr. McGlynn is a Roman Catholic Mugwump of a very pronounced type, but he has not hitherto been accounted a pessimistic philosopher. We judge that he must be put in that category if the interview with him in Friday's *Tribune* is authentic. The *Tribune* has been collecting opinions regarding the condition of workingwomen in New York, and the necessary measures for its amelioration. Dr. McGlynn was called upon for his views. They are given in a very methodical way, and are apparently the result of much reflection. They are, we must say, extremely depressing, for at the outset the reverend gentleman throws cold water upon all charitable movements, regarding them as ineffective, sporadic, and illusory. Since no synoptical treatment of Dr. McGlynn's sayings can do them full justice, we reproduce them in the original. He said :

"I have not much sympathy and but little time for any temporary measures for the relief of

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social distress. You may go on for ever with hospitals and orphan asylums and St. Vincent de Paul societies, but with them you can't cure the trouble. They relieve, not eradicate. In a right state of society there ought not to be any hospitals or asylums or charitable societies, or else very few of them. The Women's Protective Association and the few laws which defend wage-working women, and needle-workers especially, are good things in their way, but they are only superficial in their results. They are palliatives in which I take but a languid interest. Let a woman complain justly against an employer who, through his foreman, has withheld unjustly a good part of her scanty earnings, and she gets no more skirts to sew out her life blood on from him, nor from any other like him. She may have gained her case against him, but she has lost her wages for many weeks to come, because she is thrown out of work, and for her vacant place there are scores and scores willing to toil and take their chances in the system of petty robbery by the factory-owner."

There is much more of the same sort. The reverend gentleman does not think that liquor prohibition, or coöperative industry, or labor combinations, or better education, or all together, will help much, since none of these things would raise the rate of wages or prevent a reduction "when the supply of sewing hands becomes far more in excess of the demand than it is now." As for the consolations of religion, he holds them to be quite inappropriate to the discussion. In fact, he sets at defiance the recent pastoral letter of Archbishop Corrigan, in these words:

"Nor is there much comfort in the condescending advice to the slaves of poverty and oppressed toil to remember even that Christ proclaimed the poor blessed, and bade them hope for reward of eternal happiness. That is not the doctrine to preach to honest laborers of this century. That is not the doctrine which shall increase the belief in God and the followers of the Church. Such practices will not lead men and outraged cheated sewing-girls to stop calling out, 'God has forgotten us.' So long as ministers of the Gospel and priests of the Church tell the hard-working poor to be content with their lot and hope for good times in heaven, so long will scepticism increase and 'Bob' Ingersoll have many believers."

Dr. McGlynn's remedy for the ills of poverty is the abolition of private ownership of land. It is not fair to say that he offers no substitute for private charity, prohibition, cooperation, education, etc. He offers Mr. Henry George's 'Progress and Poverty' as such a substitute, so far as relates to the evils resulting from inequalities of wealth in this world. It is his view, apparently, that if everybody could have land who wants it, all those evils would disappear. But that is what everybody can have now. It would not be maintained by him, we presume, that the farmers should be taxed to support all the laborers in cities who are in distressed circumstances, at a time when there is still plenty of land to be had rent free. If that is what he means, we do not understand his logic. Nor does Mr. Henry George's 'Progress and Poverty' help us. When brought face to face with the fact that arable land is still plentiful for the disinherited sons of men, Mr. George contends that a very short time will see all the agricultural land occupied. This is as much as to say that the bulk of Mr. George's book is crass nonsense, since it is the present condition of society that he seeks to account for by the injustice of private ownership of land; and not a future condition, to be reached when no good land can be had for the asking and taking.

But it is not Dr. McGlynn's bad political economy that calls for examination, but the view he takes of those measures for the relief of human suffering for which his church in all ages and countries has been distinguished. When a clergyman makes light of these agencies, and says that he takes only a languid interest in them, he inflicts the greatest possible harm upon the religion he has espoused, because he enfeebles the highest emotions of the human soul. He tells those who are charitably inclined that what they are doing will not accomplish much good; that relieving the poor and distressed around them is only attacking the evil in spots; and that if they succeed in curing it in one place, it will presently break out somewhere else. Such teachings are so extremely pernicious that it is hard to characterize them in terms of moderation. They are calculated to confirm and harden all the selfish instincts of human nature. They set at naught the governing principle of the higher life which teaches that man, with the limitations set upon his vision, is responsible only for the right use of the powers that have been given him; that for these he is responsible, and that he cannot escape responsibility for the little evil that he might cure, by contemplation of a greater one that he cannot reach. It is as though we were told that we should take only a languid interest in the army hospital to-day because there will be another battle to-morrow, and that we should give our thoughts rather to the prevention of war. This is a pessimistic philosophy, as inconsistent with the dictates of common humanity as it is with the religion of Christ. And yet we think that Dr. McGlynn is a better man than his philosophy would make him. He has been upset by what Archbishop Corrigan rightly denominates "a freak of the imagination," viz., Mr. George's 'Progress and Poverty.'

THE TORY FOLLY IN IRELAND.

It is over fifty years since the Government in Ireland undertook to collect Protestant tithes at the point of the bayonet. The situation, too, strikingly resembled the present one in its main features. There was a profound conviction in the minds of Englishmen, and especially English Conservatives, of the importance of maintaining the Irish Protestant Church establishment, and an equally profound conviction that the tithes were the property of the Protestant clergy, and that the Government was bound to collect them at any cost from the Catholic farmers, if for no other reason, to vindicate the majesty of the law The attempt was accordingly made with the whole force of the Crown. Wherever a Protestant rector thought proper to have the goods and chattels of his Catholic neighbors seized in order to secure payment of his tithes, the bailiff was reinforced by armed police or soldiery, and the goods were remorselessly put up at auction, or carried off. The consequences were frightful. The peasantry were roused into madness, and flung themselves in fury on the muskets of the troops. They were slaughtered in considerable numbers, and they slaughtered in their turn when they caught small bodies of police unawares. Every seizure became the occasion of a bloody riot. The sales under the distraints were mockeries. Nobody who cared to buy dared to do so.

After a year of these disorders the effort to support the Protestant Church in this way was abandoned as hopeless. The tithes were "commuted," that is, were converted into a "rent charge" on the estates of the landlords, each of whom paid in a gross sum. In a few years even Orangemen wondered that anything so flagitious should ever have been attempted in the name of law and order. It would, however, have been very speedily forgotten in the excitement of the other agitations which followed, but for one thing, and that was the suggestion it contained of the feasibility of a strike against rent. The pertinacity and the success of the resistance to the tithes were, to a great many careful observers, even among the Conservatives, a startling revelation of the force which the tenants might bring to bear against the payment of rents, if the land question was ever brought to an acute crisis. There is, of course, no power which can compel the population of the whole island to pay its debts. The powers of the Government are exhausted when it sells the goods of the debtor to somebody else who is willing to buy, or puts him out of his house in order that somebody else may occupy it. The social organization, in fact, in Ireland, as well as elsewhere, rests on the assumption that recalcitrant debtors will always be a small minority. When they become the vast majority, they really have both the Government and the creditors at their mercy.

Consequently, the wisest observers of Irish affairs, in both parties, have always shrunk from any action which seemed likely to produce organized resistance among the tenants to rent paying. It seems now, however, as if the Tories had got on an inclined plane, down which they are shooting with fatal speed towards an attempt to coerce a whole community, with horse, foot, and dragoons, into paying money by distraint. At present the resistance of the tenants is confined to the offer of rent reduced in proportion to the fall in the price of produce, and this resistance seems to have secured something very like sympathy from Gen. Buller, who has been saying hard things to the landlords, and is reported to have recommended something like the payment of rent in kind instead of in money, so as to protect the tenant against fluctuations in price. But a vigorous attempt to overcome this, made on behalf of men as worthless from every point of view, social as well as political, as the Marquis of Clanricarde for instance, and accompanied by wholesale arrests of political leaders and the suppression of public meetings, must rapidly develop general resistance, and bring into the movement, through sympathy, tenants who have nothing, or comparatively little, to complain of.

The end of course is very certain. This rigor will have about as much effect on Irish discontent as Mr. Forster's imprisonment of the "village ruffians." It will undoubtedly reveal more clearly than ever to the tenantry the extent of their power over the landlords' property, and help to diminish or to destroy the scruples of those who are able to pay and have agreed to pay what is demanded of them. It is a serious thing in any country to help people to give the

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gratification of their own greed the air of patriotic sacrifice, and more serious in Ireland than in most others.

The landlords at the same time would, if their reliance on brute force had not always been so great, be entitled to a good deal of sympathy. Probably very few have it in their power to make any reduction in their rents without reducing themselves or their families to absolute penury. Their estates are generally mortgaged, or charged with annuities which cannot be reduced. The mortgagees are mostly English insurance companies which have no bowels of compassion, and the annuitants are widowed mothers and sisters, who have nothing but the annuity between them and the poor-house. Hundreds of delicately bred Irish ladies are, in fact, to-day in a state of utter destitution, or dependent on subscriptions raised by charitable people in England. The crisis is truly an awful one for all concerned. The appearance in it of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, far from promising a cure, simply lends a touch of fresh horror to the scene.

ITALY IN THE "PEACE COALITION."

THE declarations made last Saturday by the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Chamber of Deputies leave no doubt that the Government of King Humbert has unequivocally joined the coalition now forming, under the virtual guidance of Prince Bismarck, against Russian aggression in the east of Europe Italy's relations with Germany and Austria, Count Robilant declared, were "most intimate"; with England she desired to cultivate a frank friendship. She wished to follow the peace policy of these Powers. What this peace policy means, everybody knows from the utterances of Salisbury and Kálnoky: it means war if Russia dare to invade the Balkan territories. The Count was more than explicit in explaining his Government's "vigilant attitude" toward the Empire of the Czar; he even glorified Prince Alexander, whose gallantry "the whole civilized world admired." That such would ultimately be the decision in Italy's foreign policy has seemed highly probable from the beginning of the present threatening complication in Europe, but to reach it required a balancing of interest and patriotic proclivities by King, Government, and people.

Ever since Prussia's victories at Sadowa and Sedan gave successively to Italy Venetia and Rome, the Government of the latter kingdom has found it wise to cling to the friendly accord established between the courts of Florence and Berlin in 1866. There were moments of wavering and doubt in 1870, when Victor Emanuel was tempted by his son-in-law, Prince Napoleon, to make common cause with the Emperor who, at Solferino, had conquered for him Lombardy; and when Napoleon III. had surrendered to the Prussian arms at Sedan, Garibaldi and his sons and friends fought bravely for the new French Republic, the popular heart of Italy beating in unison with its liberal and race sentiments. But these sentiments were chilled by the fall of France, and still more by the terrible epilogue to the Franco-German war drama, enacted at Paris in the name of the Commune. When a few years later the insurrection in Herzegovina and Bosnia, and Servia's declaration of war against Turkey, brought about a state of affairs threatening a general war, Italy sympathized with the revolted Slavs, and began speculating upon the territorial spoils on the eastern shores of the Adriatic which the dismemberment of the Turkish Empire might procure her; but the general war was averted, and the contemplated descent upon the Albanian coast from Brindisi remained a dream of the future. The Government readily joined the other great Powers in the peace negotiations at Berlin, but when the treaty there concluded gave Austria-Hungary Bosnia and Herzegovina, without granting Italy the wished-for compensation in Tyrol, Istria, and other parts of "Italia Irredenta," Garibaldian patriotism blazed against Austria and Germany. It led to Oberdank's plot to kill Francis Joseph in Trieste in 1882, and Irredentism would probably have swept the whole peninsula had not the occupation of Tunis by the French, in 1881, given a more decisive and lasting anti-French turn to the Italian foreign policy.

Italian patriotism seeks expansion in the north, where Austria is expected to be persuaded or forced to cede the districts of Trent and Trieste as Cisalpine territories; in the east, where Ragusa, Cattaro, and other Dalmatian towns are claimed as Italian-speaking and whilom Venetian, and the Albanian coast-land around Avlona is considered one of the gates of the Italian Adriatic; and especially in the south, where, opposite Sicily, ancient Rome conquered Carthage and ruled the province of Africa. For the annexation of this anciently Carthaginian, now Tunisian, territory the Italians had been preparing since Rome became their capital, devoting money and energy without stint to the construction of naval armaments able to cope with first-class fleets for the control of the Mediterranean, to wrest Tunis from its Bey, and defend it against its nominal suzerain, the Sultan. But before the work had been completed, and the moment for action arrived, France, desirous to add to her Algerian possessions and achieve cheap military glory, suddenly pounced upon Tunis, and snatched away the prey. Italy now felt betrayed, robbed, and humbled by the French Republic. Bismarck found it an easy task to win her for a third partner in his "peace alliance" recently concluded with Austria-Hungary, and the Italian Government found it equally easy to disarm the Irredentists. It hastily lent aid to England in her operations in the Sudan, expecting from her in return help in conquering Tripoli as a compensation for the lost adjoining Tunis. But when the Czar also became a member of Bismarck's coalition, and this seemed to be converted into a kind of new imperial holy alliance, Italy began asking herself what she was in it for. The anti-German sentiment reawoke, and for a time counterbalanced the exasperation against France. In the beginning of the Bulgarian imbroglio Italy turned her eyes toward England, and when the latter roused the Vienna Government to dissolve the "Three Emperors' Union," and, with the tacit connivance of Bismarck, to break a lance with Russia, she felt that her position in the coalition, from which the Czar was being forced out, was again becoming natural, honorable, and presumably profitable. France's attitude toward England being more than ever one of hostile rivalry—on account of Egypt—and Turkey's suspiciously equivocal, Tripoli and Albania again loomed up as possible rewards for a coöperation like that which Cavour carried out in the Crimean war; and Robilant and King Humbert did not hesitate long in choosing their course.

VOLTAIRE IN SWITZERLAND.—II.

PARIS, November 17, 1886.

VOLTAIRE, who had been at first so enthusiastic about Geneva, had completely turned round after two years. Geneva was no more now than the "petitissime, parvulissime, pédantissime République." At Lausanne he also begins by being almost lyrical: he finds in it "the politeness of Athens with the simplicity of Lacedæmon." After three winters he refuses to go to Lausanne, and remains in the winter at Ferney. "The Socinians of Geneva, the Calvinists of Lausanne, the fakirs, and the bonzes, all belong to the same species. I let alone those of Paris; but as for my Swiss and my Allobroges, I correct them, and I have amused myself by having a castle with moat and drawbridge, so as to hang in it on the first occasion a priest of Baal."

It is fortunate that Voltaire employed his time otherwise in his château. The first thing he wrote was 'Candide,' which he had begun at the Elector Palatine's residence. He shut himself up for three days, not allowing anything to pass his door but his meals and his coffee. The fourth day Mme. Denis became frightened and forced his door. Voltaire threw the manuscript at her head. "There it is for you, you curious creature." 'Candide' will be read as long as the French language exists. It is, in a light form, a very profound and philosophical criticism of the theory of final causes. It might be called the gayest expression of pessimism; but it is, above all, a model of style. Never did Voltaire write with more sprightliness and simplicity—no useless adjectives or adverbs, no vain ornaments; the phrase runs like a transparent rivulet in the mountains; it is perfection itself.

As usual, Voltaire at first denied the paternity of 'Candide.' "I have written 'Candide' at last," he writes to Vernes, "and as for 'Joan of Arc,' I declare to you that people must have lost their senses who attribute to me such a *cochonnerie* (piggery)." Nevertheless, many copies found their way to Geneva; it was decided by the Council of the Republic that the book should be immediately burned. A regular war began between Voltaire and the Consistory; Voltaire organized secretly a company of actors, composed of his friends and of the members of his family—the Duc de Villars, to whom he had offered the hospitality of the *Délices*; a few gentlemen of Geneva, Cramer, Pictet, Constant; Mme. Denis, Mme. de Constant, etc. The company played "Tancrède," the last tragedy written by Voltaire. "The play drew tears from the French and the Allobroges." Another representation took place before Chauvelin, the French Ambassador at Turin, who was on his way to Italy, and Mme. de Chauvelin. "Mérope" was also played.

Marmontel made a visit to Voltaire a little afterwards, and he gives a very charming account of it in his interesting memoirs, which are a most valuable document for the history of society in the eighteenth century. The theatrical representations continued, sometimes at Ferney, sometimes at the Délices. Great consternation prevailed in the Consistory, but Voltaire had powerful allies, and public attention became entirely engrossed by the appearance of Rousseau's

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'Nouvelle Héloïse.' This novel, which was the signal for a literary revolution, was devoured in Geneva as well as in Paris. Voltaire, of course, did not admire a work which was totally at variance with his own instincts and his own genius; there was nothing romantic in him. "Every man paints himself in his novels," he writes; "the hero of Jean Jacques is a preceptor who pays himself with the virginity of his pupil." D'Alembert tried in vain to hinder him from attacking Jean Jacques: "I do not approve of your declaring against him as you do, and I must repeat to you your own words: 'What will become of the little flock if it is disunited and dispersed?' Jean Jacques is an invalid of great talent, who has talent only when he has the fever; we must neither cure him nor insult him." Voltaire, in his answer, complains of Rousseau for having tried to deprive him of his theatre at Tournay: "C'est l'action d'un coquin, et je ne lui pardonnerai pas." Rousseau was not very partial to Voltaire. Here is his judgment on him: "His little verses, his letters, are charming, and you may burn all the rest. He has the most brilliant reputation, a large fortune, friends, all possible pleasures about him; he is nevertheless the most unhappy of men. The smallest author can disturb his felicity; if he speaks of him with contempt, he will be in despair; if he has any success, Voltaire will be in despair also. The fear of death martyrizes him." Voltaire was full of contrasts: he quarrels with the President Debrosses about some wood (the value of which was some 300 francs)—and, by the by, Debrosses had the best of it in their correspondence on the subject; and the next moment, hearing that a descendant of Corneille is in distress, he sends for Mlle. Corneille, receives her, and treats her like a daughter.

A regular theatre had been built at Ferney, and the Consistory, having no authority over the place, forbade all the Genevese to play; the company was thus broken up, and Voltaire tried to find provincial actors to take men's parts. Mlle. Corneille became one of the players. He invited the famous Lekain to come to Ferney and to pass judgment on his company. Lekain himself several times went upon the stage. Soon afterwards came the Duc de Richelieu. It was a great event in the little French colony, as well as at Geneva. Richelieu was a marshal, and no French marshal had been in Switzerland for a very long time. For Voltaire it was a great triumph to receive the conqueror of Manon in his own little domain, surrounded by a sort of little court. The Marshal remained for five days the guest of Voltaire; his visit was a succession of festivities. Richelieu had the reputation of a Lovelace to sustain, and naturally paid court to the beautiful Mme. Cramer, "a Parisian lost among the Genevese."

Voltaire resolved to make a new edition of all the tragedies of Corneille, for the benefit of the niece whom he had adopted, and all the kings and princes of the time placed their names on the subscription list. Cramer was charged with the printing. This edition has many notes which are still read with profit; it is, in fact, a long commentary. Galiani is rather severe on these notes; he becomes quite angry when Voltaire finds fault with the French of Corneille. "It seems to me as absurd as if somebody told me that Cicero and Virgil, though they were Italians, did not write as good Italian as Boccaccio or Ariosto. What an impertinence! We don't know what will happen to the French tongue when it is dead; but it might just be that posterity would prefer to write in French after the style of Montaigne rather than after the style of Voltaire." Voltaire himself wrote to his friend D'Argental: "What an execrable *fatras* is found in fifteen or sixteen plays of this great man! . . . How could people prefer to a man like Racine a *rabâcheur* of such bad taste, who, even in his best parts, which are only, after all, declamations, continually sins against the French tongue, and who is always either trivial or unnatural?" The notes bear the marks of this ill-humor, but they are not always so unjust. After the original copies of the plays of Corneille, the only edition which is now valued by bibliophiles is the edition with the notes of Voltaire and the illustrations of Gravelot. The commentaries of Voltaire procured Mlle. Corneille a sum of 42,000 livres, which enabled her to find a husband.

At the end of 1763 Voltaire had a visit from the Prince de Ligne, so famous for his *bons mots*, "a favorite of all the kings, a courtier in every court, a friend of the philosophers." The Russian Empress once wondered, in talking with him, why the cabinet of St. Petersburg caused so much alarm in all the other cabinets. "So do I," said the Prince de Ligne, "especially as it is the smallest cabinet I know: it has only a few inches; it goes from one of your temples to the other, from your nose to your hair." The Prince has left a lively picture of Ferney:

"Voltaire always wore gray shoes, gray stockings, a long coat which came down to his knees, a large wig, and a little cap of black velvet. . . . He was sometimes the man of letters and sometimes the gentleman of the court of Louis XIV. He was comical when he played the country gentleman. He spoke to his peasants as he would have done to ambassadors of Rome or to princes of the Trojan war. . . . Everything, even his faults, his false knowledge, his injustice, his want of taste in the fine arts, his caprices, his pretensions, what he was and what he was not—all was charming, new, piquant, unforeseen. He wished to pass for a profound statesman or for a savant. . . . He liked the English Constitution. I remember telling him: 'Monsieur de Voltaire, add to it, as its support, the ocean, for without this it would not last.'"

After the Prince de Ligne came the Chevalier de Boufflers. His mother, the Marchioness, had been a great friend of Mme. du Châtelet. She was the favorite of the little court of King Stanislas at Lunéville. The Chevalier Boufflers was a poet: his little *conte*, "Aline reine de Golconde," is a model of the light style of the age. Boufflers remained several months with Voltaire, who received him like a son. "His printers may do as they like," wrote Boufflers to his mother; "Voltaire will always be the best of his books."

We come now to what may be called the most glorious episode in the life of Voltaire. For many years Voltaire had been moving heaven and earth for a revision of the trial of the Calas family; he had finally succeeded. This trial is well known. Calas, a fervent Huguenot, had been accused of assassinating his own son, whom he suspected of leaning towards Catholicism; he had been put to the torture, he had been condemned and stretched on the rack, his daughters had been shut up in a convent, his second son had been banished. Voltaire had received a visit from a merchant of Marseilles, who told him the true facts: the eldest Calas had really hanged himself and had not been hanged by his father. Voltaire saw in this affair an admirable opportunity; his conviction of the innocence of Calas was soon the conviction of all. A man called Sirven, also a Huguenot, was accused of having killed his daughter in order to hinder her from turning Catholic. Voltaire took these two affairs in hand and first obtained the rehabilitation of the Calas. Carmontelle made an engraving, representing the Calas family in prison, which was sold by the thousand. The word Calas became synonymous with tolerance, with religious liberty. It cannot be denied that all this movement, which shook society to its foundations, was the work of one man, of Voltaire. Élie de Beaumont became famous at once as the lawyer intrusted with the defence of Sirven. The cause of Calas and of Sirven had become the cause of all the oppressed in Europe. Voltaire, from his little retreat at Ferney, had really the eyes of the whole world on him. His personal failings and even ridiculousness disappear. His enemies will find many stones which they can throw at his statue in this work of Lucien Perey and Gaston Maugras, but the statue is immortal, and the sardonic smile is still there; and many a man will say in vain with Musset,

"Dors-tu content, Voltaire," etc.,

before the world will forget the great services rendered by the defender of Calas and of Sirven.

Correspondence.

BLAINE'S TACTICS.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Mr. Blaine has a singular fatuity in having his public utterances misconstrued. He is continually saying one thing and understood to say something else. Even the stenographer who takes his language as it falls from his lips, is liable to fail in correctly reproducing it. It is strange that so great a statesman should have such difficulty in making plain his opinions or, indeed, the simplest statements of facts to others. The truth seems to be that Mr. Blaine is never sure himself what he says, until he knows the effect it will have. If a deliverance delights his friends and at the same time gives his opponents no advantage over him, its success secures it from any question as to its genuineness. But if a rash venture should prove ill-advised, and he cannot successfully meet the criticism which it excites, he wastes no energy in trying to defend his position, but hastens to disclaim its utterance. This is Mr. Blaine's peculiar stratagem, and in it lies one of his chief claims to "smartness." It gives him a great advantage over his critics, for it reduces all discussion with him to a question of veracity; and as his reputation for veracity is beyond injury, it hurts neither his own feelings nor his standing with his supporters to fasten a lie upon him.

His letter concerning his speech in Pennsylvania on civil-service reform is on a line with these tactics. It proves that Mr. Blaine's afterthought has convinced him that he went too far in allowing his resentment towards the supporters of civil-service reform for opposing him in 1884 to lead him to an attack on the reform itself. His letter is equivocal as to his real attitude on this subject, and was doubtless meant to be so. He protests his never-dying attachment to civil-service reform, but is opposed to the English system. What system he favors he does not say. That which the Independents of 1884 favored, and which is now enacted into a law, differs in many details from the English law, but Mr. Blaine is opposed to that also, because in its main lines it corresponds with the English. He is also opposed to free trade because it is English. These reasons will likely win him more votes than any other reasons could do, hence it is not necessary to give any others. As pointed out in the *Nation* a short time ago, the corruption in the English civil service, the animadversion on which by Lord Randolph Churchill furnished the text for Mr. Blaine's diatribe, pertains to features which are omitted from the scheme of the American reformers, and Mr. Blaine was fighting the air. But he knew that his hearers were not aware of these distinctions, and his purpose was just as well accomplished.

When, however, he falls foul of the Massachusetts Independents, the only ignorance in them on which he can rely is their ignorance of what he said in Pennsylvania, because they were not

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there to hear him. He now thinks it wise to declare his devotion to civil-service reform, but not the civil-service reform which civil-service reformers advocate. His interpretation of civil-service reform would doubtless resemble that given to it by the wing of the Democratic party of which the late Mr. Hendricks was, by reason of his official position, the leader and type. These gentlemen, for many years before the accession of their party to power, proclaimed from the stump and incorporated in their platforms, as a cardinal principle of Democracy, the reform of the civil service. Mr. Pendleton was so impressed with the prevalence of this sentiment in the Democratic press and among Democratic orators, that he sought eternal renown as the apostle of this great Democratic doctrine by procuring the passage of the law now in force. It seemed as though the millennial era would dawn upon the votaries of this cause with the advent of Democratic supremacy. But when that event happened, Mr. Hendricks made haste to announce that what he and his co-partisans meant by civil-service reform was putting Republicans out of office and putting Democrats in their places. Mr. Blaine gives every indication that he is juggling with words in like manner when he says he is in favor of civil-service reform, while at the same time denouncing the only scheme which has been formulated into a system, or suggested, together with all who support it. This is his style of statesmanship. It is his usual flippant manner of dealing with public questions, reduced to the extreme of triviality.

Now, the phrase "civil-service reform" has a definite and universally received acceptation. It means the abolition of fealty to the party in power as a necessary qualification for the ministerial offices, and the substitution of the test of fitness alone. If Mr. Blaine is in favor of civil-service reform in this sense, he has never said so, and carefully avoids saying so in his letter. For the only law in force, or suggested for carrying this design into effect, he has only denunciation, and he proposes nothing to the same end. To say at the same time that he is in favor of civil-service reform is not simply self-stultification; it is an indignity to every reasonable person in the country over which Mr. Blaine is so anxious to preside. So sorry a trifling with language is beneath the condescension of a punster, and will likely repel more votes than the anti-English dodge will catch. This is of more concern to him than logic or self-respect. It is not so remarkable that Mr. Blaine should thus treat grave questions of public policy, as that a respectable number of voters should accord a standing as a serious candidate for the Presidency to a man who constantly makes game of their intelligence.

M.

WICHITA, KANSAS, November 23, 1886.

RELATION OF ECONOMY AND GOOD HABITS TO LABOR REFORM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I regularly read your excellent journal. I am a workingman—a printer. It strikes me that one good way in which to help "settle the labor question" is for work-people, in whatever trade, profession, or occupation engaged, to seriously adopt some of those methods and habits by which good business men usually succeed. "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall not stand before mean [obscure] men; he shall stand before kings." The world owes no man a living; but every man is entitled to a chance to *earn* a living, and to an opportunity to acquire property. Henry George's panacea for the cure of the ills of which many laboring people complain—the nationalization of land, abolishing private ownership of lots and acres—is just what intelligent, progressive workingmen do not want. Every enterprising toiler likes to possess something—either houses, lots, lands, horses, cattle, or some species of property—which he can call absolutely his own.

The negro slaves of the South were freed as a military necessity. So those workmen who are slaves of the intoxicating cup must be freed from that bondage as a basis of genuine prosperity and happiness. If work-people were to withdraw their patronage from the saloon, it would be one of the most important business measures which they could adopt. It is not a mere matter of taste or of opinion to say that a workman, in order to materially improve his estate, shall spend neither time nor money in saloons; it is *business*, it is a necessity. The liquor saloon is the greatest obstacle to progress among laboring people. Miss Frances E. Willard, in her recent annual official temperance address at Minneapolis, truly said:

"The central question of labor reform is not so much how to get higher wages as how to turn present wages to better account. Until our friends, the Knights of Labor, study this problem they will have learned but half their lesson. Already in seventeen States their children are learning truths that will save dimes enough per day from the accursed poisons which form the attractive ingredients of the cigar and mug of beer, to enlarge the family income from poverty to plenty."

Why does not every workingman simply consider *himself* a capitalist and a business man? Why does he not do his best to improve his general condition through honesty, industry, sobriety, economy? No liquor saloon has a right to exist on the patronage of laboring people. Workmen should let the big capitalists do all the liquor-drinking. Successful men in business are generally those guided by intelligence and honesty, industry and good habits. Increased wages, without these four elemental principles, will not especially better the condition of the workingmen.

ADALBERT BEACH.

CHICAGO, November 25, 1886.

THE VIRGINIA ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The assertion that the President is responsible for the losses of the Democratic party in Virginia is a strange one, in view of the fact that there was not, at the time of the late election, a Republican in any office of any consequence in this State. The internal-revenue officers of this State are, without exception, Democrats. The same may be said of the custom-house officers. No post-office which pays is filled by a Republican. So that as far as the Federal offices of this State are concerned, the Administration may be said to have made a clean sweep.

Again, Mr. Cleveland has been liberal in his recognition of the claims of citizens of Virginia. To Mr. Goode he gave the place of Solicitor-General; to Gen. Johnston, the office of Railroad Commissioner; to Mr. Withers the Consul-Generalship to China; to Mr. Keiley the office of Minister to Italy; to Dr. Curry the place of Minister to Spain; and to many other Democratic citizens of Virginia he has given places of honor and profit. So that it will not do to say that the President has been to blame in the matter of dispensing patronage to the Democrats of Virginia. It might, in view of the facts above cited, be said that a liberal distribution of offices has been found to be wholly inadequate to strengthen a party.

The course of the Administration has had nothing to do with the losses experienced by the Democrats in this State. An entire want of organization, an apathy wholly unprecedented, a confidence that all was well, begotten by recent victories, were the prime causes of Democratic losses in this commonwealth. To which may be added that in several districts the Democratic candidates pursued a shilly-shally policy on the tariff issue, endeavoring to stand on one platform while attempting to run on the other.

Very respectfully, H.

MADISON C. H., VA., November 21, 1886.

WATER IN PHILADELPHIA POLITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am disposed to agree with the *Nation* in many of its arguments upon the tariff question, but your correspondent's views as to the subject of Philadelphia water, of November 18 last, are altogether erroneous.

I have seen Mr. W. W. Carr's pamphlet upon "The Legal Protection of the Present Water Supply for Philadelphia," and have no doubt that the facts as he states them are true, for from Mr. Carr's notes they appear to have been taken from official and public sources. I do not understand, however, that they warrant the conclusions drawn by your correspondent. In fact, the real reason why no change has been made in our source of water supply is entirely political, and has *nothing to do with manufacturing interests*. For instance, at one of the recent meetings of Councils a report of a geological survey was presented, which has been going on for three years, at a cost of over $30,000, of the Perkiomen and Delaware water-sheds, having in view the procurement of a distant source of supply. The survey was begun under the former Chief Engineer of the Water Department, whose method of conducting the office without regard to the wishes of our political bosses led to his dismissal; and his more subservient successor, in a few lines annexed to the survey report, denies there is any necessity of making a change.

Of course, the Water Department as it now is gives great political power, and is no small item in helping to swell Republican majorities or to furnish material for Blaine enthusiasm; but the water difficulty is one of the evils of our political bossism, and is not connected with manufacturing interests.—Yours truly, I. A. W.

PHILADELPHIA, November 26, 1886.

CAREY BOWDLERIZED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Have American readers grown too "nice," that the editor of *Harper's Magazine* for December found it necessary to substitute "And then how happily we'll live" for "O then we'll wed and then we'll bed," in the last line but one of "Sally in our Alley"? Mr. Palgrave found no such necessity in compiling his 'Golden Treasury,' and what his taste and judgment have approved, even the editor of *Harper's* might safely have accepted. The literary effect of the change is obvious from a comparison of the original and spurious lines. Poor Henry Carey!

CHAS. F. BENJAMIN.

WASHINGTON, November 24, 1886.

CIVILIZATION AND POLITENESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I have just read with amazement these lines in Mr. Lowell's admirable Harvard oration:

"The very names of civilization and politeness show that the refinement of manners which made the arts possible is the birth of cities," etc.

In the name of etymology, what would he have us think? That "civilization" finds its origin in *civilis* is sound learning, though it be common. But is it accepted Harvard doctrine that "polite" has any other relation to πολίτης than an accidental likeness of sound and spelling? If yea, it might well be deemed that Dr. McCosh has let

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pass his best opportunity for grim revenge, in urging that not yet does it seem time altogether to dismiss the humanities from the Harvard *curriculum*—or could Mr. Lowell have been thinking "urbanity," when he wrote "politeness"?

But, "Quandoque bonus dormitat Homerus!"

T. B.

ROCHESTER, November 22, 1886.

BUTADES VS. DIBUTADES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: From the review of Mrs. Clement's 'Stories of Art and Artists' in your last number, I notice that Dibutades, after having been deprived of existence over thirty years ago, is again assigned a place in art story; and thinking it about time that he be expunged from art literature in America, as he has been in Germany, France, and England, I beg the indulgence of your readers for the following account of the matter, as between the names Dibutades and Butades, the latter being the name under which he is now exclusively known among *archæologists* abroad.

The person in question, the Sicyonian potter to whom is ascribed the invention of modelling portraits in clay, occurs twice in a passage of Pliny's 'Natural History' (Book xxxv., chap. 12, paragraph 43). Of this work there have come down to us some 200 MSS., most of them more or less fragmentary; the more important ones have been divided into two classes, the very fragmentary "vetustiores" and the more complete "recentiores." All the old editions of Pliny are based upon the latter, and in these the potter in question appears as Dibutades in both places where the name is mentioned, although one of them (Codex Riccardianus of the eleventh century) does give *Butidis* in the second mention of the name. By far the best MS. of the first class (the vetustiores) is the Codex Bambergensis of the tenth century, which contains only Books 32–37. This MS. was first collated by Jan and Sillig; in the first passage it has *Butares*, for which Sillig (second edition, 1851–1858) very properly conjectures Butades (which is also the reading in the second passage), and this reading has been universally accepted by later editors of Pliny: *i. e.*, Urlichs, 'Chrestomathia Pliniana,' 1857, Jan, 1864-1865, and Detlefsen, 1866–1873.

So much, then, for the editors; turning now to archæologists and art historians, we find the following state of affairs. Brunn, in the first volume of his 'Geschichte der griechischen Künstler,' published in 1853, uses Dibutades on p. 23, Butades on p. 403; but that he was fully convinced of their identity and the correctness of Sillig's conjecture is shown by turning to the index in vol. ii., published in 1859, where he refers Dibutades to Butades, and cites both passages of vol. i. under this name. Overbeck, in 'Die antiken Schriftquellen zur Geschichte der bildenden Künste,' etc. (1868, p. 46, Nos. 259, 260), gives Butades in both passages, and he figures under the same name in Overbeck's 'Geschichte der griechischen Plastik' (third edition, 1881, vol. i., p. 69). As Butades, likewise, do we find him in Lübke's popular 'History of Sculpture,' translated by F. E. Bunnètt (vol. i., p. 76). Of the Germans, Wittstein alone, in his translation of Pliny (1882), holds to the old text, and gives Dibutades in one place, Butades in the other.

Turning to England, it may be interesting to state, that on the Albert Memorial in London, among the ancient sculptors, there is figured our Sicyonian potter. He is there called Dibutades, and I remember the sarcastic remarks made at the expense of the English by a young German archæologist, when we stood before the resurrected Dibutades last year. Murray, in his 'History of Greek Sculpture' (1880, vol. i., p. 72), knows only Butades, and his work may well be taken as an embodiment of the present state of archæological knowledge in England. W. C. Perry, on the other hand, in his 'Introduction to the History of Greek and Roman Sculpture,' gives in his text (page 47) Dibutades, while, strange to say, the citation from Pliny, at the bottom of the same page, gives the name correctly as Butades. It is difficult to account for such inconsistency, but Perry's book is hardly a standard work on the subject.

In France, too, Butades is firmly established, as is seen by the latest comprehensive work on the subject, Collignon's 'Manuel d'Archéologie,' where, on page 102, *Boutades* and his invention are duly noticed.

Coming now to our own country, we find the research of the last thirty years entirely neglected. Mrs. Mitchell, in her 'History of Ancient Sculpture,' p. 172, places Dibutades once more upon the stage. Her error is easily accounted for. Note 254 shows us that she received her information from Brunn's 'Geschichte der griechischen Künstler,' p. 23, where, as stated above, he does use the name Dibutades. Had Mrs. Mitchell merely taken the trouble to consult the index of the book, she would have ascertained that Brunn himself repudiates that name. And now we find Mrs. Clement also reviving Dibutades; and, as her book will find readers, who may unfortunately obtain their knowledge (?) of art history from it, I thought it proper to protest against Dibutades, and to urge that this supposed inventor of modelling portraits may in the future be called by his proper name, *Butades*.—Yours respectfully,

J. C. MORGENTHAU.

NEW YORK, November 20, 1886.

RAILROAD EXTENSIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It is currently reported that the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé have determined to extend their line from Kansas City to Chicago. This, of course, will benefit Kansas City, and in that respect I am glad of it; but having, as a stockholder and investor, been a victim of the railroad building of 1873, I really pity the innocent lambs who are now likely to be shorn of their wool by these unwise and uncalled-for extensions. There are already three direct lines from Kansas City to Chicago, viz., Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, Chicago and Alton, and Rock Island, with a fourth, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, in course of construction and soon to be there, to say nothing of the more indirect route via the Wabash, making practically five roads between Kansas City and Chicago. What in reason another road is needed for, it is hard to tell.

If the Atchison has no hidden ulterior purpose to serve in building a new road, could it not easily have arranged with one or more of these five roads, either by purchase (Chicago and Alton) of the whole or part interest, or by permanent traffic arrangements, and thus save the useless expenditure of $20,000,000 in a country already gridironed with roads?

The result may be great injury to existing lines between Kansas City and Chicago; but does any sane man suppose that the Chicago lines will not recoup themselves by extensions into the Atchison territory and paralleling all their most profitable lines? It will not be in railroad human nature not to do so. The same argument that carries the Atchison to Chicago would hold good to extend it, or any of the Granger lines, to New York. Years ago there was a rule on some road (the name of which I do not now recall) that no purchase or extension involving more than $200,000 interest per annum should be made without the assent of stockholders previously obtained. With such a rule in force, and the matter properly explained, I doubt if the Atchison extension would go through.

The facility with which syndicates and banks now take loans and put them off on the public, as was the case with the West Shore bonds, aids greatly in this unwise railroad construction; but if they all held themselves to as strict a responsibility as the Barings did after the negotiation of the Eastern Railroad loan, when they paid the defaulted interest for a number of years, I doubt if bankers would so readily father the loan for the commissions they make.

The negotiation of this loan will temporarily let loose a good deal of idle capital for use on call to the bankers and brokers in New York and Boston, but when called in, having been used up in unprofitable railroad construction, then will come the crash, and the poor victims will call on "the heavens to cover them." Our railroad managers of to-day are truly Napoleonic: "After them the deluge." For another quotation I would say: "Those (railroad investors) whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

A VICTIM OF 1873.

Notes.

THE Essex Institute has begun the publication of a series of etchings of old houses and places of interest in and about Salem, Mass. These etchings are 3¼x5 inches in size, and are for sale at the rooms of the Institute. The set comprises the following: Roger Williams House, built in 1635, as it appeared in 1828; Pickering House, built about 1650; Turner House, a favorite haunt of Hawthorne's, and sometimes called the "House of Seven Gables"; Peabody House, described by Hawthorne in 'Dr. Grimshaw's Secret'; Birthplace of Hawthorne; Gallows Hill; Custom-house; Rebecca Nurse House; First Church in Salem, built in 1634; Gen. Gage's Headquarters. Orders may be sent to George M. Whipple, Secretary.

Ginn & Co. will be the American publishers of Prof. Jebb's work on Homer, soon to be issued by James Macklehorse & Sons, Glasgow.

D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, will issue 'The Young Folks' Golden Treasury of Poems,' illustrated; and 'Faith and Action,' selections from the writings of F. D. Maurice, with a preface by Phillips Brooks.

Thomas Whittaker publishes directly a symposium on 'Future Probation,' or the possibility of salvation after death, by a number of leading English clergymen; and 'Sermon Briefs,' suggestive outlines for every Sunday of the year.

John E. Potter & Co., Philadelphia, publish immediately 'How He Lost Her,' a society novel, by Jonathan Barrett.

Joel Munsell's Sons, Albany, will undertake a work having for its title 'American Ancestry,' and for its aim the exhibition of the male lineage of every citizen of the United States who can trace his descent from families settled in America previous to 1800.

The American Economic Association have ready 'Coöperation in a Western City [Minneapolis],' by Albert Shaw. Dr. Richard T. Ely, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, is the publisher.

Two new aids to the study of Browning have been issued, one in the well-known Rolfe school-series (Harper & Bros.), the other by Prof. Corson, under the title 'An Introduction to the Study of Robert Browning's Poetry' (Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.). The first contains twenty poems, including "Pippa Passes," with an introduction made up mainly of extracts from eminent critics in praise of Browning, and with full notes at the end explaining the geographical, his-

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torical, and artistic allusions, and recording the textual changes made by the poet. The selections show good judgment, and have a wider range than those of Prof. Corson. He is more interested in the "thought" of Browning, and elucidates it in thirty-three of the poems by means of several brief introductory essays, by paraphrases of the poems, and by foot-notes on the text. The principal essay, on "The Idea of Personality in Browning's Poetry," was noticed by us on its first issue; the others are attempts to excuse Browning from the fault of obscurity, to maintain that his harshness is a part of his art, to declare him a master of blank verse, etc. The volume is more valuable in its expository portions, which pupils in Browning will find serviceable.

The Shelley Society's proposed publications for 1887 follow the same lines as the issues of 1886. The latter were twelve in number, and included five type-facsimile reprints of early editions, Rossetti's 'Memoir,' the 'Note Book,' part one of Forman's 'Shelley Bibliography,' and reprints of some of Shelley's minor work. In 1887 the same number will be issued, if the funds permit, and among them will be type-facsimiles of 'Posthumous Fragments of Margaret Nicholson,' 1810; 'Refutation of Deism,' 1814; 'A Letter to Lord Ellenborough,' 1812; 'Masque of Anarchy,' 1832; and 'Proposals for an Association of Philanthropists,' 1812; Robert Browning's essays and poems on Shelley; the biographical articles by Stockdale, Hogg, Thornton Hunt, and Peacock; a facsimile of Forman's copy of 'Laon and Cythna' as corrected by Shelley's hand into 'The Revolt of Islam'; a Shelley Primer, two volumes of Papers, and part two of the 'Note Book.' Several of the volumes of the first year were presented by members, but presumably the Society means to be self-supporting. The number of members needs to be increased by about one hundred, and subscriptions for the second or for both years are solicited. The fee for America is $5.25, and may be sent to Prof. J. M. Peirce, No. 4 Kirkland Place, Cambridge, Mass. This entitles the member to a copy of the publications free; and they have been so well selected and executed that any one interested in Shelley cannot fail to be gratified by their possession, especially as original editions of Shelley are of excessive rarity and price.

Macmillan & Co. send us two more volumes of Mr. Saintsbury's admirably annotated French text-books (Oxford: Clarendon Press). "Esther," like the other masterpieces of the French drama published by the same editor, has good notes, and is preceded by sixty pages of interesting prolegomena on the life and writings of Racine, the progress of French tragedy, and the circumstances that led to the production of the play. The 'Scenes of Travel,' by Théophile Gautier, is a new venture as a text-book. It contains a very readable selection from the various 'Voyages' of this highly gifted, eccentric, and difficult author, whose picturesque style, varied and rich vocabulary, and wealth of allusion afford ample opportunities to puzzle even very advanced French scholars. Mr. Saintsbury has not been lavish of his notes. He explains so well that he makes us regret that he has not treated Gautier as liberally, as to the abundance of annotations, as he has older and more classical writers.

The advance sheets of the *Century* for December contain the second instalment of the Life of Lincoln. The story moves rapidly, and this division carries the reader through the store-keeping days of the hero, the Black-Hawk war episode, the first unsuccessful canvass for the Legislature, the surveying job, the election to the Legislature and service there, down to the Lincoln-Stone Protest. The narrative is of absorbing interest, and is remarkable for its strong and crowded pictures of the general life and social conditions of the community, for which the topics of the improvement of the Sangamon River, the Indian war, and the internal-improvement legislation of 1836-37 offer capital opportunities. The sketch of the condition of public opinion in regard to slavery also has telling touches. The ease with which Lincoln in his youth came to the front in whatever he undertook, is as noticeable as is his bent both for duty and for success; and it is interesting to observe in his first political writing, his candidate letter, the same markedly individual style in literary construction and mental tone which was to characterize him in maturity.

The October number of the *English Historical Review* contains four articles. The first, by Mr. John B. Bury, is upon "Euboia before the Lelantine War." "No continuous history," the writer remarks, "has been written of the island of Euboia"; the article contains, therefore, a real addition to our available knowledge. The same may be said of the second article, "The Origines of the University of Paris," by Rev. H. Rashdall, although it professes to be only a review of Denifle's great work. The theme of the article is that the real organization of the University consisted in the establishment of the four nations of the Faculty of Arts (a system borrowed from Bologna), and of the Rector of the same Faculty, who speedily came to be the head of the corporation. These steps were taken early in the thirteenth century. The writer pronounces his article dull; but all who are interested in the history of education will find it far from being so. Rev. Nicholas Pocock treats of "The Restoration Settlement of the English Church," pointing out the contrast between this and the work of the sixteenth century. The development of Calvinism in the Church of England, and its antagonism to the Lutheran spirit, are lucidly analyzed. The fourth article, "François Joseph Dupleix," by Sidney J. Owen, will be of interest to all students of the growth of the English power in India. Among the "Notes and Documents" we will especially notice Mr. Walter Rye's very damaging examination of the authenticity of the Squire Papers.

The November Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society opens with the paper on the "River Systems of South India," read by Gen. Rundall before the British Association. The greater part is devoted to a description of the four great delta rivers emptying on the east coast and draining five-sixths of the peninsula. The rapid growth of the delta formation is shown by the fact that Point Godavery, at the mouth of the river of the same name, "had extended nine miles to the north in thirty years." The Government has spent about twenty-two millions sterling on irrigation works, but has done "very little yet in utilizing the upper waters of the great rivers." Gen. Rundall thinks if storage basins should be constructed on these, the recurrence of famines would be greatly diminished. Following this is a vigorous plea by Mr. D. W. Freshfield for a better geographical education. Regarding geography as "the connecting link between natural science and history," he contrasts the indifference shown to it in England, and the consequent ignorance, with the attention paid it on the Continent. There are twelve university professors of this science in Germany and not one at Oxford or Cambridge; with this result, that the German merchants and clerks are more intelligent than the English, while "the German soldier has learned to read maps, so that not only officers, but every third man in the ranks on a campaign is supplied with one." He refers, also, to the "caravanes scolaires," or geographical tours, taken by school children in Switzerland and France. There is an interesting account of a land journey by Lieut. Kund into the almost unknown region to the east of Stanley Pool in the Congo Basin. Beyond a river which forms the trader's limits, he travelled for two months through a vast forest without reaching its eastern edge. Living in it he discovered a very remarkable semi-civilized tribe of "brownish-red" men, called Zenge. These men—he saw no women—wear their hair "in most cases long, parted in the middle, and plaited into tresses, which were first wound round the neck and tied into a knot upon the chest. Their villages consist of long streets with gable-roofed huts on either side, with neatly kept gardens at their back. The huts were large, carefully built, and clean, and "the village street was swept, and there were round pits for refuse of all descriptions." "They had mostly an intellectual cast," and showed great skill in wood-carving. Fetish and idol-worship seemed to be unknown, as was also cannibalism, which prevails among the tribes west of them. It should be added that they possessed no European articles.

The *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for November prints M. de Lesseps's brief paper on the Panama Canal, sent to the British Association. He estimates its cost at £50,000,000, and that an aggregate tonnage of about twelve million tons will annually pass through it, and confidently expects that it "will be finished by the end of 1889." Dr. Felkin's paper on the question, "Can Europeans become acclimatized in tropical Africa?" is a very valuable contribution to this important subject. He believes that if the dangerous coast region can be quickly passed by means of railways, there are many parts of the high central plateau and mountain regions where Europeans can become acclimatized—a conclusion with which some African travellers, as Mr. J. Thomson, do not agree. Mr. A. S. White contributes a carefully prepared article, which fairly bristles with statistics, on the Balkan States. It is accompanied by two excellent maps, the one orographical, the other political.

Lady John Manners has followed up her 'Advantages of Free Libraries and Recreation Rooms' with a pamphlet of 'Encouraging Experiences of Reading and Recreation Rooms' (Edinburgh: Blackwood; New York: Scribner & Welford). It is very praiseworthy in its intention, but so hopelessly British, not to say parochial, in its attitude, that it is not likely to be useful to those in America who are interested in starting free libraries and reading-rooms. The lists of books are calculated for the latitude and longitude of London, and do not include those likely to be most appropriate and profitable here. The patronizing benevolence of chapter iv, on books for household servants, is delightfully insular.

The separate system of sewerage might better be known as the exclusive system. It is a general term applied to the arrangements designed for the water carriage of liquid refuse without the admixture of storm water, except as far as that is required for special purposes. Sewage can thus be disposed of at much less cost for construction and repair of apparatus, and with far better sanitary results, than when the older-fashioned large conduits are built and maintained. It is probable that for nine-tenths of the towns in the United States which require sewerage at all, the adoption of this general plan, of which there are several varieties, would result in an average pecuniary saving to the community of four-fifths of the cost of the older and grosser method, and with marked sanitary advantages besides. Engineers and corporations contemplating such works will find in Messrs. Staley and Pierson's 'Separate System of Sewerage' (Van Nostrand), a very practical account of what may and what may not be done, with good working-tables, plans, estimates, contracts, and a dozen plates, all based upon extensive experience. We have not verified the calculations, but we do not doubt their substantial correctness, nor that the

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book is, as it seems, a trustworthy publication. Were it only properly indexed, its value for reference would be greatly increased. As published, a moderate table of contents is the only key to its included material.

'An Elementary Treatise on the Theory of Determinants: A Text-Book for Colleges,' by Paul H. Hanus, formerly Professor of Mathematics in the University of Colorado, comes to us from Ginn & Co., Boston, and deserves mention, if for no other reason, because it is the first regular treatise on the subject published on this side of the Atlantic. It is also worthy of notice that this first American treatise was, as the author informs us, written in that part of the United States which may still be called the "Far West." The author has endeavored, and with good success, to adapt his work to the use of those students who have no assistance from a teacher. This is a most important point, because the opportunities for obtaining the services of a teacher of the theory of determinants are, in this country, as yet very limited. The great majority of those who wish to become acquainted with this comparatively new, but already most extensive and important, branch of mathematics, must rely wholly upon books and their own efforts. The work seems to us very skilfully adapted for this purpose, and is abundantly supplied with examples of the practical application of theory.

In a paper before the Massachusetts Teachers' Association in Boston last Friday, Mr. Samuel Thurber of Milton Academy discussed "Some Tendencies of Secondary Teaching in Europe." From a wide reading of the recent pedagogic literature of Germany, Mr. Thurber concludes that the gymnasia are rapidly losing ground in the affection and respect of the German people. In the revival of learning, the classical authors were eagerly sought because they offered what could not be found elsewhere—works of supreme literary excellence—and were thus the only open roads to culture. Now, although other paths are open, the classics still hold their place in the schools, but the old humanistic ideal has become confused with modern philology, which studies the languages for their own sake. The result is serious complaint of the overpressure imposed on pupils, increased by a knowledge of scanty attainment and weakening appreciation of classical literature. Great changes in the plan and programme of German schools are under vigorous discussion. The result cannot be predicted in detail, but it is safe to say that the ancient languages will eventually be far less prominent than they now are in German upper education, and that natural science and the modern languages will receive increased attention.

In the furtherance of its enlightened policy with regard to the prosecution of astronomical and physical research, the French Government has lately sanctioned a grant of the funds necessary to the completion of the observatory at Algiers, which is expected to be in full operation next spring. Two assistants have already been assigned to M. Trépied, and the observatory is expected to take an active part in stellar photography and spectroscopic research.

Under the direction of M. Beuf, late of the French navy, a new observatory has been erected in La Plata which has a fine instrumental equipment, including an equatorial of the "coudé" pattern, now quite common in France, a large meridian circle, an apparatus for celestial photography similar to that of MM. Henry at Paris, and a number of geodetic instruments. At first the efforts of M. Beuf will be directed to a geodetic survey of the vast territory of the province, and will include a measurement of an extensive meridian arc in the plains of Chaco and Patagonia, of which the latter may be expected to afford valuable results in the direction of further knowledge of the size and figure of the earth.

The recent discovery of the "curse of patronage," and that "the only way to be without enemies is to be without patronage," is (writes a correspondent) nothing new, but only a fresh illustration of the fact that there is no new thing under the sun. Byron, though he declared that kings never learned anything well except riding on horseback—and that only because horses are not flatterers—yet must have admitted that Louis XIV., two centuries ago, knew well that the power to give offices must be pernicious to popularity: for he must have read in Voltaire's 'Siècle de Louis XIV.' that sovereign's pathetic exclamation: "Toutes les fois que je donne une place vacante, je fais cent malcontents et un ingrat." To feed to the full five thousand men with five loaves and two fishes, is the exclusive prerogative of superhuman thaumaturgy.

—There are out-of-the-way bits of life in a great city, as there are out-of-the-way corners, which one may live long without ever seeing or hearing of. It is curious to have wandered much through London streets and looked over innumerable London journals, illustrated and not, and to first learn of the Apple-Tree Restaurant from a Frenchman. Philippe Daryl relates in *L'Illustration* his visit to this eating house in the Poultry. Its full name is Apple-Tree Restaurant (vegetarian) and City Temperance Rooms. It aims to combat intemperance both of food and drink, to get the better both of carnophagy and cenoposis by giving to those who believe that meat and alcohol alike brutalize man a place where they can get more healthy foods without the temptation which, in the general restaurant, sight and smell offer to the imperfectly regenerate. The bill of fare certainly promises well:

"*Porridges.*—Oatmeal. Hasty-pudding. Buckwheat.
Soups.—Bean, Tomato, Rice.
Entrées.—Pâté of haricot beans. Broiled potatoes. Rice with curry. Lentil fritters.
Vegetables.—Potatoes, fried, stewed. Fresh carrots. Lima beans with parsley sauce. Haricot beans. Brussels cabbage. Spanish onions. Green peas with mint. Beets.
Pâtés.—Macaroni. Tagliarini.
Puddings.—Cabinet. Date. Custard.
Dessert.—Blanc-mange. Pine-apple. Gooseberries. Apricots. Apples. Peaches. Plums. Cherries. Strawberries. Cranberries. Candied ginger. Bananas.
Miscellaneous.—French salad. Cheese. Cucumbers. Celery.
Drinks.—Milk. Milk with beaten egg. Milk and Seltzer water. Lemonade. Seltzer water. Orange champagne."

—Here, surely, was enough to please the palate and fill the stomach. But, unfortunately, M. Daryl implies that though a shilling bought him all that he needed to eat, there was no pleasure in eating it: the artistic element was wholly wanting. The vegetables were substantial enough, but unspiced and flavorless—a serious mistake if the object of Apple-Tree is to win converts to vegetarianism. If the dishes had been prepared with that skill which one finds in the smallest French eating-house, where a plate of beans may be a dinner fit for a prince, the ranks of the consumers of dead flesh might be speedily depleted, for no one can supply a meat dinner for a shilling. M. Daryl complains, also, as a Frenchman would be sure to do, of the absence of wines. The Apple-Tree might at least furnish cider. It certainly is strange that neither tea nor coffee is on the bill of fare. Our Holly-Trees and Oriental Coffee-Houses find coffee a most powerful weapon with which to fight alcohol. We have heard men rejoice that since their establishment they were able to get along without whiskey. It is true that it is fighting fire with fire: there are some dangers in the unintoxicating beverages, but they are vastly less. However, the food and drink, such as they were, attract customers. There were about fifty in the room when M. Daryl entered it, two or three clergymen, several professors or doctors, apparently, and the rest clerks. The latter, no doubt, were glad to get a satisfying meal for a shilling, and possibly indulged their carnivorous tastes at breakfast elsewhere. But they all, he says, had a melancholy air, and seemed to be performing a duty rather than enjoying a pleasure.

—In his address at the last meeting of the British Association, Sir James N. Douglass, President of the Section of Mechanical Science, presented many matters of interest in the development of lighthouses, light-vessels, buoys, and beacons, together with their mechanical and optical apparatus. The rapid growth of commerce during the last century has required such an increase in the number of coast lights that, while in 1860 the total number throughout the world did not exceed 1,800, it is at present not much less than 4,000. In 1759 Smeaton's lighthouse on the Eddystone was illuminated by a light whose intensity was about sixty-seven candle units, and no optical apparatus was employed for condensing the radiant light of the candles and directing it to the surface of the sea. The efficiency of this illuminating apparatus appears, according to experiments which Mr. Douglass has been conducting, to have been about 1·2400th part of that of modern lighthouse apparatus occasioning the same expenditure. Tracing the development of apparatus for lighthouse illumination through the invention of the cylindrical lamp-wick, by Argand, in 1782, the dioptric system of Fresnel, and the introduction of illuminating gas in various forms, we come to the first important application of the electric-arc light at the South Foreland High Lighthouse in the latter part of 1858, which was sufficiently encouraging to lead to the permanent installation of the electric light at Dungeness in 1862, and at Cape La Hève by the French lighthouse authorities in the following year. These lights met with varying success, which was on the whole far from encouraging, as frequent extinctions of the light occurred from various causes, and the oil light had at such times to be substituted. In 1876 a series of trials of various dynamo-electric machines was made by the Trinity House at the South Foreland Light, the results of which brought out a machine that has worked satisfactorily for several years. The successful development of the electric-arc light for lighthouse purposes acted merely as a keen stimulus to inventors of burners for producing gas and oil luminaries, and, with the subsequent reduction in the price of mineral oil, the efficiency of the latter as an illuminator was very largely increased.

—In 1881 it was considered by the lighthouse authorities of Great Britain that the time had arrived when it was absolutely necessary that an exhaustive series of experimental trials should be made, on a practical scale, for the exact determination of the relative merits (both as regards efficiency and economy) of the three lighthouse illuminants, electricity, gas, and mineral oil. This question was, in July, 1883, referred by the Board of Trade to the Trinity House, who accepted the responsibility of carrying on the investigation, and formed a committee of members who secured the friendly coöperation of the Scotch and Irish Lighthouse Boards, and of many distinguished men in Great Britain and elsewhere. The Trinity House Committee courted the fullest inquiry. All their arrangements were open to public inspection. Many engineering members of scientific societies visited the station, and officers from the lighthouse services of France, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, Russia, Italy, Spain, Brazil, the United

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States, and Canada were present to witness the experiments. During a period of more than twelve months the experimental lights were on exhibition, and were watched by numerous observers, trained and untrained, scientific and practical, and a vast amount of valuable evidence was collected, by the aid of which the Committee were subsequently enabled to state their conclusions with definiteness. It was demonstrated that the electric arc had the most important requisites of a lighthouse luminary, viz., maximum intensity and minimum focal dimension; and, in all states of atmosphere, from clear weather to thick fog, the incontestable superiority over the utmost efforts of its rivals, gas and mineral oil. With the best gas and oil luminaries as employed in haze and fog, when maximum intensity only is required, the question of merit resolved itself into one of pure economy, and mineral oil at the present market prices was found to have a considerable advantage. The relative penetrability per unit of light of the best gas and oil luminaries in haze and fog was found to be practically identical. In certain conditions of thickened atmosphere the electric-arc light appears at some disadvantage, being absorbed more largely by haze and fog than either the oil or gas light, while all three are nearly equally affected by rain. The final conclusion of the Committee on the relative merits of electricity, gas, and oil as lighthouse illuminants is, that for ordinary lighthouse purposes mineral oil is the most suitable and economical illuminant; while for salient headlands, important landfalls, and places where a very powerful light is required, electricity offers the greatest advantages—conclusions which, it may safely be asserted, cannot fail to assist in the development of lighthouse illumination, and will thus tend toward the reduction of loss of life and property at sea.

—Grimm's new 'Life of Raphael' incidentally shows Cicero's *commune vinculum* between one art and another. Nothing, according to Grimm, has aided him so much in Raphael research as photography. Passavant, after many a journey to inspect sketches by Raphael which are dispersed all over Europe, was unable to see them all. Besides, he had often forgotten one sketch before he arrived at another with which he wished to compare it. The copies he had were all more or less unfaithful. He died without the sight of photographic reproductions. But the collection in photographic facsimiles of Raphael's drawings, one and all, which Prince Albert brought together, was epoch-making. Then first could comparative study of the great master commence. Spurious works, confronted with genuine, betrayed their true character. "What the Prince Consort," says Grimm, "had accumulated so laboriously, everybody everywhere can now possess at small cost. Every student in a single semester can learn more about Raphael than the foremost connoisseurs knew fifty years ago. It almost seems as if the rôle assigned by fate to the great Umbrian was now just beginning." In a personal way, also, photography has been of no small service to the prince of painters. It has strangely brought to light the vera effigies of Raphael as he drew it himself. In fresco painting it is necessary that the colors be laid on the mortar while it is fresh and soft. The outlines cannot be drawn with a pencil, but must be swiftly scratched with a sharp instrument on the yielding ground. So Raphael formed them when, in painting the "School of Athens," he introduced his own likeness in the right-hand margin. In the lapse of centuries no part of the picture had suffered so much as this—all the more because of constant attempts to cleanse and to restore the portrait, which at last had destroyed its identity. The photographer Braun of Dornach, however, observed that the outlines graved in the hard plaster, though often daubed over, were still discernible. He then caused a strong side-light to strike the wall, which made all colors and later drawing to disappear, while it brought out in deep shadow only the roughnesses which Raphael's tool had raised on the wall. He was thus able to photograph the genuine original outlines. The likeness thus coming forth in resurrection turns out not to resemble any of those passing for authentic except the woodcut prefixed by Vasari to his second edition (1568), and which had been generally discarded as incorrect. The Italian representations of Raphael have usually been derived from the bust set up over his tomb in the Pantheon by Maratta. Those in Germany have come from the so-called Florentine portrait, which, all but mouth and nose, has been spoiled by retouching, and which lacks proofs of genuineness.

ABBOT'S BLUE JACKETS.

Blue Jackets of '61: A History of the Navy in the War of Secession. By Willis J. Abbot. With illustrations, principally by W. C. Jackson. Dodd, Mead & Co.

We have been waiting for some time for a boys' book on the navy in the civil war. The subject is almost unique; it is recent but not too recent, it lends itself readily to spirited treatment, and the facts have been ascertained with substantial accuracy and are within easy reach. The boys want to know all about it, and the older generation wants them to have the knowledge. It is a fresh subject, instructive and at the same time intensely real and dramatic, full of thrilling episodes, of heroic endeavor and performance.

In the 'Blue Jackets of '61' Mr. Willis J. Abbot has essayed to cover this field. The title-page describes the book as a history, and its style, its treatment of the subject, and its holiday appearance mark it as a book for boys. While the author has given an animated story, it cannot be said that he has made the most of his opportunity. His battle-scenes are somewhat lurid, and he loses rather than gains in picturesqueness by a turgid style and profuseness of epithet. Occasionally he is guilty of forcing his facts for the sake of effect. Exaggeration of this kind, whether verbal or historical, is not a good thing for his boy readers, and it may be doubted whether it is much to their taste. The best way to tell a great story is the simplest way—to let it tell itself. Nothing is gained by calling the *Brooklyn* a "grand old frigate," when she was a screw-sloop just four years old, and represented the most modern type of naval vessels of the period. By the same process the sloop *Cumberland* is transformed into a "towering frigate," and Preble's little squadron at Mobile into "huge frigates"—a squadron actually composed of a third-class sloop, a gunboat, and a schooner. Among the elements of description at the author's command are many little harrowing devices, which he calls into frequent use, such as the "shrieking" of shells, and the laying out of instruments in the cockpit. A ram-thrust always—at least on three separate occasions—"hurls" to the deck all the people on board the ram, "with blood streaming from their nostrils"—from which one gathers that the ram is a most sanguinary weapon even to those who use it. After the *Hartford's* passage of Port Hudson, "all on board watched eagerly, save those who lay moaning on the surgeon's tables in the cockpit below." The brilliancy of the *Hartford's* exploit cannot be denied, but the fact remains that her casualties were only one man killed and two so slightly wounded that they immediately rejoined their divisions: and a chance venture at a bit of fictitious detail thus leads to a most unnecessary misrepresentation.

If it were only on points of this kind that Mr. Abbot was at fault, there would be little occasion to dwell on them; but the singular thing is that his lapses occur not so much in obscure technical matters as in those that are known of all men. Most of them would have been avoided by a reference to books as accessible as the well-known "Campaign Series," which the author certainly had, and of which, in some of his descriptive passages, he has made a liberal use. Many of them, indeed, would imply a lack of the most cursory knowledge of the main events of the war, and can only be accounted for by an inexcusable carelessness. Thus, on page 115, Mobile is mentioned as one of the places captured early in the struggle, while on page 156 it is said that Farragut only succeeded in passing the forts below New Orleans late in the war; and conclusions are drawn from both statements. As every one knows, the battle of New Orleans was fought in April, 1862, and that of Mobile in August, 1864. On page 291 it is said that the *Florida* was not allowed to refit in Cuba because the "fortunes of the Confederacy were waning fast," which was certainly not the case in September, 1862, when the *Florida* was at Havana. Many statements are distinctly the reverse of the truth. Thus it is twice said that some of the United States vessels at the beginning of the war were surrendered to the Confederates through the treachery of their officers, when it has always been a source of just pride to the service that, in spite of the temptation, no such case occurred. The *Metacomet* is said to have received her "baptism of fire" at the battle of New Orleans, although at the date of the fight she was not launched. On page 131 the destruction of the fleet at Elizabeth City is credited to Goldsborough instead of Rowan. Foote's wound is said to have "led to his leaving the service," when it is well known that he died on his way to assume command of the South Atlantic Squadron. On page 5 it is stated that all revenue cutters are "officered by navy officers," which is desirable, but is not true; and on page 292, that "in the career of the *Florida*, after her escape from Mobile, there was nothing of moment," though she and her tenders captured or destroyed forty-three vessels, valued at four and a half millions of dollars.

Not only does the book bristle with these minor errors, but the descriptions of important events in several cases are confused and twisted to such an extent that even the participants would fail to recognize them. The accounts of the relief of the *Constitution*, of the abandonment of the Norfolk Yard, of the breaking of the obstructions at New Orleans, are thoroughly misleading; while the confusion and blundering in reference to such well-known actions as Port Hudson and Grand Gulf make it difficult to believe that the writer has ever read a coherent and trustworthy account of the operations on the Mississippi. The effect of each misstatement is increased tenfold by embroidering it with fictitious details. One case of this kind will serve as an illustration. The cruise of the *Shenandoah*, after she was put in commission at Madeira, is thus described:

"Her course lay to the northward, and she was soon in fields that Semmes with his *Alabama* had never ravaged. This made the hunting all the better for the *Shenandoah*, and she burned vessels right and left merrily. She even ran up within a few miles of Portsmouth, N. H., and captured several unsuspecting coasters who came sailing out of port. But the captain knew that such spots as that would soon get too hot for him, so he crowded on sail and made for the Behring's Straits, where he hoped to catch a few returning whalers and see the glorious bonfires made by the barrels of whale oil that the poor fellows had been industriously gathering amid the Arctic ice-floes for years. Capt. Waddell was not disappointed in his expectations, for he reached the straits just as the returning whalers were com-

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ing out of Baffin's Bay. One day he captured eleven in a bunch. . . .

"After cruising about the whaling grounds until cold weather drove him away, Capt. Waddell began a tour of the world, visiting Japan, India, South Africa, and finally returned again to the Arctic seas nearly a year later to recommence his war upon the whalers. He had captured and burned several, when the captain of a brig that had but recently left home told him that the war was over; that the Confederacy was crushed, Grant was in Vicksburg, Butler in New Orleans, and Jefferson Davis in a prison cell. . . ."

As a matter of fact, the *Shenandoah*, after leaving Madeira, instead of going to the northward, which would have been exactly in the fields that Semmes had "ravaged," went in the opposite direction, crossed the equator, and proceeded to Melbourne. So far from capturing "unsuspecting coasters" near Portsmouth, N. H., she was never within 2,000 miles of that port. From Melbourne she went to Behring Strait to catch whalers, as the author says, but *not* whalers "coming out of Baffin's Bay," seeing that in order to reach the Strait they would have been compelled, as plenty of his boy readers will be able to tell him, to make the northwest passage—a feat which no whaler has as yet accomplished. The *Shenandoah* had begun her cruise in October, 1864, and she was at Melbourne in January and February, 1865. She reached Behring Strait early in June, and started on her return at the end of the same month. Soon after leaving the Strait she received the news of Lee's surrender and the collapse of the Confederacy, upon which she proceeded directly to Liverpool without touching land. The news may have included the statement that Butler was in New Orleans and Grant in Vicksburg, but it must have been rather old news to Waddell, as he had left Liverpool two years and a half after the former occurrence, and more than a year after the latter. His informant, having got possession of this supposed Rip Van Winkle of the Arctic, to whom nothing was a "chestnut," might with equal propriety have told him that George Washington had been gathered to his fathers. Waddell's "tour of the world," in which, according to Mr. Abbot, he visited "Japan, India, South Africa, and finally returned to the Arctic seas nearly a year later," where he "captured and burned several" whalers, is therefore as mythical as the voyages of Sindbad the Sailor or the Flying Dutchman.

No doubt a work of this kind, written for boys, should be judged by a lenient standard. It is permissible to pad it with anecdote, which is always more or less apocryphal; and if the anecdote is good, nobody need complain. Even if an author, in producing his scenic effects, puts on the red paint somewhat thickly, he may be pardoned. But no one, whether he writes for boys or men, can be excused for perverting facts, even when he does it in this writer's aimless and slovenly fashion.

The illustrations show the same faults as the text. In one, the "Attack on the Hatteras Forts" is being made by a fleet of modern English ironclad rams, bearing no resemblance to the "fine old frigates" that actually conducted it. In another, the *Monitor* is deprived of that useful and conspicuous feature, a smoke-stack, while the *Merrimac* has one whose dimensions are nothing less than colossal. The "Charge of sailors at Hilton Head" is an exciting scene, but a purely imaginary incident; while in many of the pictures the arrangement of sails, flag, smoke, and sea, while it may secure an artistic effect, represents a physical impossibility.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.—III.

'DOWN THE SNOW STAIRS,' by Alice Corkran (Scribner & Welford), is among the best of the juvenile books this year. The illustrations, by Gordon Browne, are workmanlike and not without a pleasant humorous quality. The story is a dream of the land where children are naughty and are punished—some visibly in Punishment Land, some indirectly in Daddy Coax's domain of kisses and candy, some in a real inferno of punishment in kind. Kitty, with a star to guide her, with a good spirit on her right shoulder and a bad one on the left, meets temptations of flattery and greediness and the like with a childlike unconsciousness of being tempted, and an almost too-late waking-up to the danger, which is well imagined. There are conventionalisms too, and so there are in the illustrations, where the guardian angel is never well managed; but these are not in great excess. The obvious drawback is the strong resemblance of the whole story to the Alice books—a resemblance which is insisted on, as it were, in the chapter where I and Myself use almost the words and are pictured in the attitude of Tweedledum and Tweedledee; but it is not to be forgotten how little youthful readers will object to that, while, for the older lovers of children's books, the resemblance is so frank and naïf that it is as if the preface or the title-page had said, "Imitated from 'Alice in Wonderland.'"

We have still another such imitation, 'Keyhole Country,' by Gertrude Yerdon (Roberts Bros.), a little book full of illustrations which are anonymous, and also rough and careless enough, though not uninteresting. This book is amusing reading; we like the Caller Herring, who was always being pursued by the fishwives, but never really in danger, because there's "not a word about his having been sold in the song"—as indeed there is not! And the Caller Herring wore at his watch-chain a Sixth Sense, wearing which one heard the flowers talk; but this was not needed to hear the birds and beasts talk—"the upper fifth sense is enough to hear them." Some of the jokes are pure English, or rather London, allusions—like the fun about the Agony Column, which the artist has pictured as an obelisk, in a moment of forgetfulness. All this is amusing reading for grown people, and probably children will like it, too.

'Ginevra, or the Old Oak Chest,' by Susan E. Wallace, with illustrations by Gen. Lew Wallace, is the story of Rogers's heroine, the lost lady of Modena, told in rather grandiose style, in prose. The illustrations are quite unreasonably bad. One feels vexed with such things, nowadays, when fairly good pictures are common in even cheap books. The addition at the end of Rogers's own poem, "Ginevra," is the best thing about this book; the illustration copied from the engraving in Rogers's 'Italy' is not a success.

The same publishers send us 'From Meadow Sweet to Mistletoe,' by Mary A. Lathbury, with large pictures reproduced from drawings by the author. The poems are very far superior to most of the amateurish productions, which are so hard to read and so much harder to qualify properly. This, for instance, is good, solid work, free from gush, and the metre and rhyme coming naturally:

> "Little people, if you'll rise
> While the stars are in the skies,
> Waiting for the day to break,
> And the sleeping world to wake;
> If you'll go, while yet the day
> Only blushes through the gray,
> Down the hill and through the brake
> To the misty mountain lake,
> Maybe you will see the daughter
> Of the sunshine and the water.
> Lili is a water maid," etc.,

—but we should like to quote it all. And the "Shipwreck" is still better, but must be quoted entire if at all, and therefore not at all here. And the pictures, are they of equal merit with the verse? Not quite that, but they are far from being contemptible. There is something very unpleasant in the style and the very tints of their reproduction, but the designs themselves are not to be despised. Conventional, no doubt; rather feeble than strong, of course; but with a pretty and childlike grace and simplicity.

There are some pretty verses also in 'All Round the Clock,' by Robert Ellis Mack (Dutton & Co.); for example, these:

> "When I am very big and old
> I'll write a book all bound in gold.
> . . . . . .
> "I'll tell about my pussy cat,
> Who goes to sleep upon the mat;
> "Of my new shoes, and dolly, too,
> I won't forget to 'member you.
> . . . . . .
> "I'll write a book all bound in gold
> When I'm a big man, five years old."

Nor are the above any better than others in the book. It would seem as if children would like these when read to them, and that mammas would find the reading not disagreeable. The illustrations, by Harriet M. Bennet, lithographed and printed in colors by Ernest Bister of Nuremberg, are too red and green, cheeks too rosy, hair too yellow; but underneath this unprepossessing surface there seems to be a sympathy with children, and a certain sense of their ways of moving and standing and lying down, which is very agreeable.

'Christmas Roses,' by Lizzie Lawson and the author of 'All Round the Clock,' and 'Under the Mistletoe,' by the same two writers, are similar collections of verses for children, some better, some worse. There are poems among them which remind one of the 'Original Poems' of Jane Taylor's book long years ago, and others (especially 'A Mistake') which have the ring of "Aunt Effie's" poems for children, both of which we give as resemblances that do credit to the newer writers. The illustrations in both books are of the character of those in 'All Round the Clock.' As they are signed L. L., we are left wondering whether "Lizzie Lawson" is not the artist and Mr. Mack the writer in both these little books. In the three last-named books there are, besides the colored full-page illustrations, a host of little marginal sketches, printed in brown. Now we are fully persuaded that these have no attraction for the childish mind. Vignettes, sketched sprigs of flowers on title-pages, semi-decorative margins, are not what children care for. The art they demand is historical and not decorative; they wish to see people or animals doing certain things clearly and plainly set down. The attempt to make children's books pretty in the eyes of grown people is probably made with a view to the hurried purchaser in the bookstore amid the holiday crowd. For the children themselves, all this is nearly useless.

'Pictures and Songs for Little Children,' also from Dutton & Co., would seem to be a gathering made from some periodical—at least it is strange to find all these bits of verse by different authors filling the book like a scrap-book, without preface or table of contents. Some of the little poems are very pretty indeed, and there is a good deal more matter than there is in the more showy little books we have discussed above. The illustrations are woodcuts printed with the text, and are very numerous, though not to be praised.

Mr. G. A. Henty is well known as a writer of boys' books of an interesting and healthy character, most of them belonging to the class of historical fiction. In 'The Young Carthaginian' (Scribner & Welford) he enters a field new to him—that of classical antiquity—and carries his reader through the Second Punic War. Mr. Henty knows very well the tastes of boys—and it would seem that English boys are not very different from American in their craving for exciting adventure—and the book is crowded with incident and peril. With the historical sketch we have no fault to find. Livy is followed pretty closely, as was natural; and if there are any details which are incorrect—in the passage of the Alps, the Italian battles, etc.—later study will

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correct the errors. The lesson of the book is sound—that the triumph of Rome was in the interest of civilization; but we think that the corruption of Carthage is exaggerated, and also the degree of perfidy and cruelty to which Hanno and the peace party of Carthage carried their opposition to Hannibal. As a picture of ancient life we feel more doubtful about the book. It is very hard to appreciate or criticise the delicate touches in which the truthfulness or untruthfulness of an historical picture consists, especially when obscured by the difference of language; but the men and women of this book impress us as moderns masquerading in ancient costumes. And not unreasonably so. Mr. Henty tries his hand in too many fields of history to be really at home in all of them. He is a good classical scholar, but he does *not live into* classical life. To take a petty illustration: no person who really understood Roman family life would use such impossible nomenclature (at this period) as "Lady Flavia Gracchus," Julia the daughter of Gracchus, "The prætor Publius," "The military prætor," or address a young man as "Sempronius," or allow this Sempronius to speak of himself as a patrician. For all this, the book is a good one for boys. What they want is inspiration and the quickening of the imagination, rather than antiquarian precision, which they can get afterwards.

RECENT NOVELS.

John Jerome. By Jean Ingelow. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

The Terrace of Mon Désir. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co.

The Master of Tanagra. By Ernst von Wildenbruch. Translated by Marie, Baroness von Lauer. London: H. Grevel & Co.

Crime and Punishment. By Feodor M. Dostoyevsky. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.

MISS INGELOW has incorporated a good deal of the miscellaneous matter in her commonplace book into the form of a novel, of a very unconventional type, under the title of 'John Jerome, His Thoughts and Ways,' and in this manner succeeds in conveying her opinion on a variety of matters which would have been awkward to handle in the ordinary form, and which hardly had sufficient substance to furnish the groundwork for a series of essays. Among the most prominent of the ideas which she airs is the advisability of forming extensive plantations of the *Ailanthus glandulosa*, and providing the Japanese silk-worms which feed upon that tree, with a view to raising silk in England. Another is as to the propriety of men and women of the upper classes living a life resembling that of the gypsies, if their instincts incline them in that direction, and of the duty of women to engage in the work of their own houses. The range of topics which are touched upon at more or less length is very extensive, and although the reader may not appreciate either the theories thus broached or this back-handed way of telling a story, he will find a good deal of wit and not a little common sense in John Jerome's rambling talk.

The author of 'The Terrace of Mon Désir' is evidently a novice in the art of romance, and it is not surprising, therefore, that the general effect is rather that of dim memories of the writings of others than of vigorous individuality, in spite of the fact that the central idea is not a copy. The story of beautiful Nadia Laskar's betrothal to André Rototsky, the murder of the latter for the sake of his money, by his ungrateful cousin, the search for the murderer by Gerald Read, and the final happiness of Gerald and Nadia, is very good in itself, but it needs more skill than the author at present possesses to give the characters due relief. The same may be said of his attempts to introduce what is called "local color." Although the book is labelled "A Novel of Russian Life," there is very little flavor of anything distinctively foreign, or of anything which would not fit any other country—given a palace and gardens to describe—quite as well, with the exception of the names of people and places. The transitions of feeling are rather abrupt and awkwardly managed, but with more experience the author will probably be able to produce pleasant summer novels.

The charming little Tanagra figurines evidently inspired Ernst von Wildenbruch's dramatic and poetical story of ancient Greece, 'The Master of Tanagra.' It is the story of Myrtolaos of Tanagra, the pupil of Praxiteles, who won success only when he took for his model the beautiful Hellanodike, the woman who followed him to Athens from her Bœotian home, and nearly fell a victim to Athenian vice in her innocence and her love for him. It is extremely dramatic, and the description of the orgy in which Phryne takes part goes to the very verge of propriety. The translation is spirited and the language good and varied, though the translator's foreign origin is betrayed, here and there, by peculiar words and idioms. The only one of these which is really puzzling is the unvarying use of "once" as the equivalent of "einmal," which produces sentences like the following: "Hermes of Tanagra, thou who shalt once live with Olympic Zeus, anew I greet thee."

It is safe to say that any one who begins Dostoyevsky's famous novel, 'Crime and Punishment,' will not lay it down until he has read every word of it. Such a psychological study of the murderer who is not a hardened criminal, it would be hard to find in the literature of any other country than Russia, or from any pen but that of Dostoyevsky. The murder is committed by a poverty-stricken student, Raskolnikoff, who has evidently been driven half crazy by want, though rational enough in the ordinary sense of the term. It occurs to him that it will be a meritorious act to rid the earth of an old harpy of a pawnbroker, who is reputed to be very wealthy; and he is confirmed in his belief that he is appointed to the task, and that it is a righteous deed, by overhearing a parallel suggestion from another of the old woman's clients, in a public eating-house. He plans to commit the deed while the woman's half-witted companion is out of the way, but circumstances force him to burden his conscience with this victim's blood. The agony of mind which he has endured for a month while plotting the deed, is now intensified to the highest degree. This forms the leading motive, though the fates of others are entangled with his in a way which renders it a tale of action, and not alone of analysis. Even in its present very much abridged form, the effect which it produces can only be expressed by the word tremendous. What the American reader would think of it in its original form, it is hard to say. As Dostoyevsky ranks preëminently among the authors, not too numerous in any country, who cannot be read by dipping into each page at railroad speed, the diminution of power in the present case must be apparent.

As a specimen of ingenious hacking down one-third and paraphrase rather than translation, it is creditable compared with some books which have appeared; but the best Russian critics object to this process, as is quite natural. Every page, and nearly every paragraph, is more or less cut. The English translator, evidently a Cockney, indulges in the vulgar, "Wherever have I come to?" "Whatever have you done?" and the like use of "however," not to mention such constructions as; "It is a great pity, my deer fellow, you did not be more careful with her," and so on. As if to let the translation seem to have been made directly from the Russian, instead of from the French, the Christian names of all the characters have been altered from their French form into what is fondly imagined to be pure Russian. The most prominent instance is furnished by the name of Raskolnikoff's sister Dunia. In the original she is called Avdotya throughout, except when the familiar form, Dunya, is employed. Avdotya is the popular form of Evdokhya (Eudoxia). In the translation it figures, without exception, as Euxodia. The French is correct. The French André becomes Andreas (Russian, Andreï); Porphyrius usurps the place of Russian Porfiry, and so forth; it is useless to catalogue all these *bits of linguistic mosaic*. On the other hand, the proofs, if proof were needed, that the version was made through the French, are furnished by the singular coincidences in the excisions, by the use of "paquitos" (as in the French) where the original said "cigar"; by a coincidence of mistake with the French in cases of minor errors, as in the use of "lodgers" instead of "landlords," and by various other equally significant signs, of different degrees of intensity.

The Volcano under the City. By a Volunteer Special. Fords, Howard & Hulbert.

UNDER the above somewhat startling title is given the fullest account of the draft riot of 1863 that has ever been published. The author's name is not revealed. He says that the police, from the beginning to the end of the riot, did not so much as attempt to keep their usual record of occurrences; that, being too busy with the club to use the pen, the books of the Department are almost a blank as to the deeds of that dark period. The sources of information for the work are the contemporary newspaper accounts, which were necessarily fragmentary; the author's own observation, the observation of other eye witnesses whom he has consulted, and the telegraph-books of the Police Department containing the brief despatches that passed between police officers. The survey of the field presented by this book is—necessarily, no doubt—from the police point of view, but full credit is given to all the military and civil forces engaged in restoring order.

The account of these riots, which lasted from Monday, July 13, 1863, to Friday of the same week—four days and nights—is the blackest chapter in the history of New York city. The author recalls its horrors to warn us that "there is, and always will be, a volcano under the city," and that if we would prevent eruptions, we must take proper precautions. Up to the day, to the very hour, of violence in 1863, people could not believe there was danger. Even after men were assaulted and houses were in flames, many could not realize that the outbreak was serious. It came in a moment, without plan and almost without design, and a mob for four days and nights worked its sweet will on the metropolis of the republic. The loss of life and property was enormous, and the agony caused by the atrocities of those four lawless days is beyond all power of computation. And by whom, one naturally asks, was all this evil wrought? Not by workingmen, the author tells us, but by the idle and vicious, who congregate in New York city from all quarters of the globe, and seek by violence to share the fruits of other men's labor and thrift. The draft merely afforded a pretext in 1863, as any novel measure might do now, for bringing those vicious elements together as a mob. A mob's power for mischief, the author very properly maintains, can be neutralized by proper precautions. Under any circumstances its reign

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will be short, and its punishment sure in New York city, all parts of which can be reached by the shells of our gunboats as well as by the bullets of our land forces and the clubs of the police. The streets of all the lower part of the city, where the great business and treasure-houses are located, if a desperate remedy were required, could be literally swept clean by guns from the water-front around the Battery and up the East and North Rivers.

There seems to be an impression abroad that dynamite has strengthened the mob as compared with the forces of the law, and the word dynamite in some quarters produces an effect like that which followed the cry of "Masked battery" and "*Black*-horse Cavalry" in the early part of the war of Rebellion. The impression has, perhaps, found some support in the injury done to Chicago policemen by dynamite bombs last year. It is true that an assassin working in concealment may do greater momentary mischief with dynamite than with the stiletto, the pistol, or the torch; but the advantage from dynamite is on the other side. There is no form of force against which the dynamite bomb can be used with so much ease and effect as against a mob. It is only necessary that the forces of the law shall know how to use it when necessary, as they use their fire-arms or their clubs.

There are many personal items of interest in the book. The part taken by Gov. Seymour, by Gen. Wool, by Gen. Sandford, by Gen. Harvey Brown, and others, is told in more or less detail. Superintendent of Police Kennedy, knocked down and badly beaten by the mob at the beginning of the riot, barely escaped with his life, and did not recover till long after order had been restored. The control of the Police Department fell upon Mr. Acton, President of the Board. He remained on duty day and night, and he and Gen. Harvey Brown, of the regular army, acting in concert from Police Headquarters, directed the police and most of the military forces. In matters relating to enrolment and draft, the book contains some errors, but they do not affect the account of the riot and need not be pointed out. The last two chapters of the book, entitled, "The Opportunity" and "Then and Now," are written with a clearness and vigor not to be found in the rest of the work. It is all timely, however, and teaches that we should first remove, as far as possible, all cause for riots, and, secondly, recall ing our own experience, be prepared to crush them at the beginning if they come upon us.

The Philosophy of Words: A Popular Introduction to the Science of Language. By Frederic Garlanda, Ph.D. A. Lovell & Co. 1886.

MR. GARLANDA tells us that the aim of his work is "to explain as plainly as possible some of the most important results of the Science of Language." He deprecates the fact that the generality of people know so little and think so little about the words they use, whereas "the main results of geology, physiology, chemistry, and other sciences are already a possession of the public at large." In the hope, evidently, of helping to remedy this condition of affairs, and with an apology for the necessary imperfections of a work designedly popular, the author goes about instructing the general public upon the "philosophy" of words. He writes with ardent enthusiasm for the "science" of language and for the majesty of phonetic law; he has the eye of a Trench or a Max Müller for what is curious and striking in the history of words; and he says a great many things which are true and which do indeed deserve to be more generally known. It is, however, our painful duty to remark that these good things have all been said before, and that, too, in easily accessible treatises. Furthermore, Mr. Garlanda's presentation of them is so mixed up with crudities and inaccuracies as to prevent his book from being really useful to any one. Its authorities are the familiar classics of twenty years ago, and it reflects correctly neither the spirit nor the conclusions of present philological scholarship. Numerous word-lists are quoted from many different languages for the purpose of comparison, and the appearance of these words is often such as to indicate that the writer does not understand the subject he is dealing with. At any rate forms are often misprinted, phonetic laws are asserted where no such laws exist, and etymologies are propounded with entire *sang froid* which are now generally repudiated or else labelled *non liquet*. A few illustrations must suffice.

"The phonetic laws," says Dr. Garlanda, "must be our sheet-anchor in linguistic researches. It is this which gives to the new science of language the exactness and the precision of the physical sciences." For substance of doctrine this is certainly good enough, but how can the "public at large" be expected to doff their hats to it as exemplified in the following? "There is a phonetic law in the French language according to which a *c* or a *g* which in a Latin word stands between two vowels disappears in the evolution of that word from Latin into French." Will not some of them commence saying over to themselves: *seculum*, *siècle*; *species*, *espèce*; *regula*, *règle*; *agere*, *agir*, etc.? And what will even the less learned of this same public be likely to think when it is asked "why the *th* is 'preserved' in English *Catharine* and German *Kathrine*, but not in Italian and Spanish, where we have simply a *t*?" This is probably the first time that the German *th* in *Kathrine* ever troubled a writer on phonetics. Elsewhere we have it that "the Sanskrit *pattram*, 'wing,' corresponds normally to the Gothic *fadar*, English *feather*."—a statement which contains not less than three different blunders. All things in this line are, however, to be expected from one who can write thus: "If we check with our lips the current of air, we have the sound *b*; if we do the same thing with a little more strength, we have the sound *p*." After this the reader is also prepared to hear that *father* is "he who protects," *mother* "she who forms (the family)," *daughter*, "the milkmaid," *brother*, "he who guides (his sister)," and *sister*, "she who dwells under the same roof." There is probably not a living authority of the modern school who would defend a single one of these old guesses. Even in the domain of generalities, the favorite medium of popular science, Mr. Garlanda does not show to advantage. The best classification of the Germanic languages he can offer is one which groups Gothic, Frisian, Dutch, and English together as Low German dialects. So, too, he does not hesitate to say boldly that our proethnic Indo-European ancestors "once lived on the high plains of Central Asia." The truth is, we do not know where they lived, and there is at present a strong current of opinion to the effect that they lived in Europe.

In fine, to popularize successfully the results of learned research requires the hand of a master, and Mr. Garlanda is evidently no master, but a learner who has much to learn.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alton, E. Among the Law-Makers. Charles Scribner's Sons. $2.50.
Ashley—Sterry, J. The Lazy Minstrel. Scribner & Welford.
Aulard, F. A. Les Orateurs de la Législative et de la Convention. T. i and ii. 8vo: Boston: Schoenhof.
Barnard, F. Character Sketches from Thackeray, from Original Drawings, Reproduced in Photogravure. Cassell & Co. $7.50.
Bickerdyke, J. The Curiosities of Ale and Beer. Illustrated. Scribner and Welford.
Brooks. Rev. A. The Life of Christ in the World. Thomas Whittaker. $1.50.
Brooks, Rev. P. Twenty Sermons. Fourth Series. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1.75.
Cavé, Madame Marie Elisabeth. Drawing from Memory; The Cavé Method. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.25.
Champney, Lizzie W. Three Vassar Girls on the Rhine. Boston: Estes & Lauriat. $1.50.
Clarke, H. The Globe Dictionary of the English Language. Boston: Aldine Book Publishing Co. $1.50.
Colton, B. P. An Elementary Course of Practical Zoölogy. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co. 85 cents.
Cort, Mary Lovina. Siam; or, The Heart of Farther India. A. D. F. Randolph & Co. $1.75.
Craddock, Charles Egbert. In the Clouds. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Cranch, C. P. Ariel and Caliban, and Other Poems. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Daily Chimes: Thoughts in Verse for Every Day in the Year. Cassell & Co. 50c.
Delaborde, Le Vicomte H. Engraving: Its Origin, Processes, and History. Cassell & Co. $2.00.
Dicey, Prof. A. V. England's Case against Home Rule. London: John Murray.
Dix, Dr. M. Christ at the Door of the Heart, and Other Sermons. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1.75.
Doyle, Sir F. H. Reminiscences and Opinions. 1813-1885. D. Appleton & Co. $2.00
Ellis, E. S. Down the Mississippi. Cassell & Co. $1.25.
Encyclopædia Britannica. Ninth ed. Vol. xxi. Charles Scribner's Sons.
Farjeon, B. L. The Bright Star of Life: A Novel. Harber's Handy Series. 25 cents.
Ferrier, Prof. D. The Functions of the Brain. 2d ed. Illustrated. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $4.00.
Fisher, Prof. G. P. Catholicity True and False. Charles Scribner's Sons. 25 cents.
Gilman, A. The Story of the Saracens. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.50.
Goethe, J. W. von. The Sorrows of Young Werther, and Other Tales. Cassino & Co. $1.75.
Gréville, H. Count Xavier. Boston: Ticknor & Co. $1.00.
Haweis, H. R. Christ and Christianity; The Story of the Four Evangelists. Thomas Y. Crowell. $1.25.
Hazard, Caroline. Memoirs of the Rev. J. Lewis Diman, D.D. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
Heberden, C. B. Euripides; Medea. Parts I. and II. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan. 50 cents.
Hobart Pasha, Admiral. Sketches from My Life. D. Appleton & Co. 50 cents.
Hoffman, E. T. W. The Serapion Brethren. Vol. i. Scribner & Welford.
J. S. of Dale: The Sentimental Calendar. Charles Scribner's Sons. $2.00.
Jackson, Helen (H. H.). Sonnets and Lyrics. Boston: Roberts Brothers. $1.00.
Jukes—Browne, A. J. The Student's Handbook of Historical Geology. Illustrated. Scribner & Welford.
Jullien, A. Richard Wagner: Sa vie et ses œuvres. Paris: J. Rouam; New York: Macmillan.
Kaufman, Rosalie. The Life of Mary Stuart, Queen of Scotland. Abridged. Illustrated. Boston: Estes & Lauriat. $2.50.
Kirk, Eleanor, and Le Row, Caroline B. The Beecher Book of Days. Selections for Each Day in the Year. Cassell & Co. $1.25.
Lamb, C. Some Essays of Elia. Illustrated. D. Appleton & Co. $2.00.
Macgibbon—Ross. The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland, from the 12th to the 18th Century. Edinburgh: David Douglas.
McConnell, Annie Bliss. Half Married: Agamé Gamé. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.
Meredith, O. The Earl's Return. With Drawings by W. L. Taylor. Boston: Estes & Lauriat. $6.00.
Oliphant, Mrs. The Son of His Father: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library.
Overton, J. H. The Evangelical Revival in the Eighteenth Century. A. D. F. Randolph & Co. 80 cents.
Perry, Nora. New Songs and Ballads. Boston: Ticknor & Co. $1.50.
Preston, Margaret J. For Love's Sake: Poems of Faith and Comfort. A. D. F. Randolph & Co. $1.00.
Randall, Dr. D. A. Ham-Mishkan, the Wonderful Tent: An Account of the Structure, Signification, and Spiritual Lessons of the Mosaic Tabernacle. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co. $2.00.
Richardson, C. F. American Literature, 1607-1885. Vol. I. The Development of American Thought. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $3.00.
Rothe, R. Still Hours. London: Hodder & Stoughton.
Row, C. A. A Manual of Christian Evidences. London: Hodder & Stoughton.
Saintsbury, G. Théophile Gautier: Scenes of Travel. Macmillan & Co. 50 cents.
Scott, Sir W. Christmas in the Olden Time. Illustrated. Cassell & Co. $4.50.
Shirley, Penn. Little Miss Weezy. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
Simon, E. The Emperor William and His Reign. 2 vols. Scribner & Welford.
Smith, Helen Ainslie. One Hundred Famous Americans. With Portraits. George Routledge & Sons. $1.50.
Smyth, N. The Morality of the Old Testament. Cassell & Co.
Stewart, A. The Tale of Troy Done into English. Macmillan & Co. $1.25.
Stevens, A. Impressions of Painting. George J. Coombes. $1.25.
St. Nicholas: An Illustrated Magazine for Young Folks. Vol. XIII. Parts 1 and 2. The Century Co.
Sweney, W. S. Natural Science Note-Book: Mineralogy. A. Lovell & Co.
Tenney, Mrs. Sanborn. Young Folks' Pictures and Stories of Animals. Illustrated. 6 vols. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
The Beecher Calendar, with Selections for Every Day in the Year. Cassell & Co. $1.00.
The Century. May, 1886, to October, 1886. The Century Co.
The Imitators: A Poem of Boston Life. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co. $1.25.
The Lorgnette. 1886. George J. Coombes. $1.25.
The Venerable Bede Expurgated, Expounded, and Exposed. Henry Holt & Co. $1.00.
Thomas, J. Cannibals and Convicts: Notes of Personal Experience in the Western Pacific. Cassell & Co. $2.00.
Thorne, W. H. Modern Idols: Studies in Biography and Criticism. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. $1.00.
Thorpe, Rosa Hartwick. Curfew Must Not Ring To-Night. Illustrated. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
Three Kings: A Christmas Legend of Long Ago. A. D. F. Randolph & Co.
Toplady, A. M. Rock of Ages. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
Towards the Gulf: A Romance of Louisiana. Harper & Brothers.
Trowbridge, J. T. His One Fault. Illustrated. Boston: Lee & Shepard.
Tullidge, E. W. History of Salt Lake and Its Founders. Salt Lake City.
Walsh, Archbishop. Addresses Delivered on Various Occasions. Dublin: M. H. Gill & Co.
Wendell, B. Rankell's Remains: An American Novel. Boston: Ticknor & Co. $1.00.
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